



February 10, 2020

Taylor Landa, LCSW, Director of Clinical Services  
Willow Springs Center  
690 Edison Way  
Reno, NV 89502

Dear Ms. Landa,

Willow Springs Center submits Seclusion/Restraint forms to the Commission on Behavioral Health for review and feedback as required by law. We recently returned the Seclusion/Restraint forms we reviewed at our last meeting along with our concerns.

For clarification, this is the definition of Chemical Restraint as defined by Nevada Revised Statute 433.5456: *“Chemical restraint” means the administration of drugs for the specific and exclusive purpose of controlling an acute or episodic aggressive behavior when alternative intervention techniques have failed to limit or control the behavior. The term does not include the administration of drugs on a regular basis, as prescribed by a physician, to treat the symptoms of mental, physical, emotional or behavioral disorders and for assisting a person in gaining self-control over his or her impulses.*

Our concerns are many:

- Thorazine is being used before alternative intervention techniques have been tried. Other medications might be more appropriate for the treatment of children, especially the younger children.
- We question why medications administered during these events are not being documented on the Seclusion/Restraint form as Chemical Restraints.
- Many forms do not document the plan to prevent future events. Also, many youth have multiple events, but no changes are shown to a plan that doesn't seem to be working.
- Many events indicate that youth are breaking ceiling tiles, ripping out wiring and metal bars, breaking light fixtures, etc., with the intent to self-harm. These safety issues in the environment of care should be addressed.

We would like a written response to our concerns, a corrective action plan, by March 1, 2020, mailed to the address below. We would also like to invite your medical director and authorized staff to attend our next meeting on March 19, 2020, 8:30 AM, at the Division of Child and Family Services, Northern Nevada Child & Adolescent Services, 2655 Enterprise Road, Reno, Nevada 89512 to speak to our concerns.

We appreciate your partnership is making Nevada a safer and healthier place for our children. Please contact me if you have questions.

Thank You!

Sincerely,

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Lisa Durette, MD, DFAPA. DFAACAP

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cc: Amanda Kelly, Willow Springs Director of Nursing