

**STATE OF VERMONT
GREEN MOUNTAIN CARE BOARD**

In re: Application of Silver Pines, LLC)	
Medically Supervised Withdrawal)	GMCB-016-19con
Treatment Center for Substance)	
Use Disorder in Stowe, VT)	
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ORDER AMENDING CERTIFICATE OF NEED

On June 23, 2020, this Board issued a Certificate of Need (CON) in the above-captioned matter to Silver Pines, LLC d/b/a Sana. The CON authorized Sana to develop a medically supervised withdrawal (MSW) treatment center for adults with substance use disorder (SUD) at 3430 Mountain Road in Stowe, Vermont. *In re: Application of Silver Pines, LLC, Certificate of Need*, Docket No. GMCB-016-19con (June 23, 2020), 1 (hereinafter “*Sana Statement of Decision*”). On August 22, 2022, Sana requested clarification regarding certain aspects of its CON, resulting in a need to clarify whether the CON allows Sana to provide residential treatment services to patients, regardless of whether they receive medically supervised withdrawal treatment at Sana.

Sana originally proposed to develop a 32-bed MSW treatment center for adults with SUD. *Sana Statement of Decision*, 1. MSW treatment services involve considerable involvement and care from medical professionals. The American Society of Addiction Medicine (ASAM) 3.7-WM Medically Monitored Inpatient Withdrawal Management programs require that a registered nurse be available to provide an assessment upon admission; a physician is available to assess a patient within 24 hours of admission and to provide on-site monitoring on a daily basis; physicians and/or physician extenders are available 24 hours per day, 7 days per week; licensed and/or credentialed clinicians provide a planned regimen of 24-hour professionally directed care; and licensed and/or credentialed staff are available to administer medications in accordance with physician orders. Megan Mitchell, LCSW, Director of Clinical Services Vermont Department of Health, Division of Substance Use Programs (DSU) email (February 2, 2023) (hereinafter “DSU email”).

Residential Treatment services require close supervision and care, but a lower level of medical involvement. ASAM Level 3.5 Clinically Managed High Intensity Residential Services require telephone or in-person consultation with a physician or physician extender 24 hours per day, 7 days per week and licensed or credentialed clinical staff and allied health staff on site 24 hours per day. Additionally, ASAM 3.5 programs include daily clinical services, planned clinical activities and a range of evidence-based therapies. *Id.*

In responses to Board questions dated September 2, 2022, and December 2, 2022, Sana provided information on September 9, 2022, and December 21, 2022, respectively regarding staffing FTE and patient care levels. *See* Response to Questions, September 9, 2022, and December 21, 2022. DSU reviewed this information and determined that Sana’s current staffing and clinical services appear to be sufficient to meet the requirements for providing both ASAM Level 3.7

MSW services and ASAM Level 3.5 residential treatment services. As additional staffing and programming would not be required for Sana to add the residential services, it is not expected to impose additional staffing costs. DSU email.

The addition of ASAM 3.5 residential services will provide a significant benefit. Including this level of care will allow individuals who are no longer in need of ASAM Level 3.7 MSW services to remain in residential care at Sana “in order to solidify gains in their early recovery.” DSU email.

The addition of ASAM Level 3.5 residential treatment services presents a non-material change to Sana’s CON. The Board has reviewed the change to confirm that quality of care and cost of health care services are not adversely impacted by the change. Because the addition of ASAM Level 3.5 residential treatment services does not require additional staffing and because it improves the quality of care provided at the facility, Sana’s request to amend its CON is approved.

CONCLUSION

For the reasons set forth above, we amend Sana’s CON to include ASAM Level 3.5 Clinically Managed High Intensity Residential Services. All other requirements and obligations of the CON remain in effect and unchanged.

Dated March 8, 2023, at Montpelier, Vermont

<u>s/ Owen Foster, Chair</u>)	
)	
<u>s/ Jessica Holmes</u>)	GREEN MOUNTAIN
)	CARE BOARD
<u>s/ Robin Lunge</u>)	OF VERMONT
)	
<u>s/ Thom Walsh</u>)	
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<u>s/ David Murman</u>)	

Filed: March 8, 2023

Attest: s/ Jean Stetter, Administrative Services Director
Green Mountain Care Board

NOTICE TO READERS: This decision is subject to revision of technical errors. Readers are requested to notify the Board (by e-mail, telephone, or in writing) of any apparent errors, so that any necessary corrections may be made. (Email address: Kristen.Lajeunesse@vermont.gov). Appeal of this decision to the Supreme Court of Vermont must be filed with the Board within thirty days. Appeal will not stay the effect of this Order, absent further Order by this Board or appropriate action by the Supreme Court of Vermont. Motions for reconsideration, if any, must be filed with the Board within ten days of the date of this decision and order.