

144 State Street Montpelier, VT 05633-3601 802-828-2177 Owen Foster, Chair Jessica Holmes, Ph.D. Robin Lunge, J.D., MHCDS David Murman, M.D. Thom Walsh, Ph.D., MS, MSPT Susan J. Barrett, J.D., Executive Director

## DELIVERED ELECTRONICALLY

April 19, 2024

Kristen Bolton, Executive Director Elderly Services, Inc. The Harry & Jeanette Weinberg Center 112 Exchange St., PO Box 581 Middlebury, VT 05753

RE: Docket No. GMCB-014-24con, Elderly Services, Inc., Adult Day Service Capacity Infrastructure Project

Dear Ms. Bolton:

Thank you for your letter dated April 18, 2024, regarding Elderly Services, Inc.'s Project Independence Adult Day Care infrastructure project.

Your letter states this project intends to upgrade a twenty-year-old building by increasing insulation and decreasing leakage in the building envelope, replacing the aging HVAC system with energy-efficient heat pumps, and adding roof mounted solar panels to reduce electric usage. These changes will increase the comfort level within the building, improve air quality, maintain programming by reducing the frequency of building closures, and reduce operating expenses so that more resources can be allocated to staffing. Services are not changing as a result of this project.

Elderly Services, Inc., located in Middlebury, is a non-profit organization that has provided adult day services for over 40 years through Project Independence. The center serves frail elders and younger people living with dementia and disabilities residing in Addison and northern Rutland counties, as well as their caregivers. The services currently offered include the following:

- Medical/Nursing Support (oversight of physical care needs while at adult day, care coordination, health assessment, medication administration, support for oxygen, diabetes, special dietary plans, dementia care)
- Social Work/Psychosocial Support (counseling, caregiver support, care management, resource networking, community education, advocacy)
- Transportation to and from the center
- Therapeutic activities and personal care



- Zoom activities
- Hot meals

Although the cost of the project would trigger a review for a "health care facility" as defined in 18 V.S.A. §9432(8), Elderly Services, Inc.'s Project Independence is an Adult Day facility and not considered to be a "health care facility." Therefore, it is not subject to review. Based on the representation contained in your letter, because the facility remains an Adult Day facility and its services and function are not changing, the renovations and upgrades to the building housing the Adult Day programs are not subject to CON review.

As you proceed with developing and implementing this project, if there are any changes in type, scope, or arrangements of the project, please contact the Board immediately so we may determine whether any further process is necessary. Failure to do so as required by Green Mountain Care Board Rule 4.301(4) may result in sanctions, as specified in 8 V.S.A. § 9445.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at 802-760-8162.

Sincerely,

<u>s/ Donna Jerry</u>
Senior Health Policy Analyst
Green Mountain Care Board

cc. Laura Beliveau, Staff Attorney, GMCB

