

Rosenwald, Barbara

To: Drake, Joyce
Subject: YouthCare

Please understand that I will follow the directions that you and HQ give to me and I will proceed to the best of my abilities.

I am very concerned about the recent decision to lift the Stop Placement on the two YouthCare programs.

I have a long history with YouthCare - approx. 16 years. I understand politics and power. There is no doubt in my mind that Vickie Wagner is committed to running quality programs. There is no doubt in my mind that the deficiencies and problems in the programs cannot be resolved. YouthCare is being cooperative and working with us.

The action we took with these programs is no different than what we would have done with any other program/agency that found themselves in the same situation - regardless of the size of the agency. The decision to reverse this action based on a call from a very influential CEO totally undermines our ability to work with this agency and weakens any case for them to actuate any changes. There is no way that they can take the Region seriously after this. We have absolutely no clout. How do we justify this when we take more serious action with other agencies for lesser things? What happened at Griffin a couple years ago is nothing compared to this. I can only hope that they will continue to respond in a positive manner because of the relationship we do have.

I have been a licenser for 6 1/2 years. I do not think that I have seen a collective group of deficiencies that reaches the seriousness of this in all my time of licensing. I know that the CPS investigation is not complete, but I do believe that agency and staff actions are responsible for some very serious violations in licensing, basic child care and safety of residents and facilitated the rapes of both of these girls. The violations border on blatant - certainly irresponsible.

I have a very positive relationship with this agency, so I have no axes to grind. I believe we can resolve and fix the problems. I will remain a team/agency player. I understand the dynamics. I do not agree with the decision.