



U.S. Department of Justice

Civil Rights Division

*Assistant Attorney General
950 Pennsylvania Ave, NW - RFK
Washington, DC 20530*

December 22, 2020

The Honorable Kim Reynolds
Governor of the State of Iowa
State Capitol
1007 East Grand Ave.
Des Moines, Iowa 50319

Re: Notice Regarding Investigation of Glenwood Resource Center

Dear Governor Reynolds:

The Department of Justice has completed its investigation into conditions at Glenwood Resource Center (“Glenwood”), conducted under the Civil Rights of Institutionalized Persons Act (CRIPA), 42 U.S.C. § 1997. Consistent with the statutory requirements of CRIPA, we provide this Notice of the conditions that we have reasonable cause to believe violate the Constitution and federal law. We also notify you of the supporting facts giving rise to, and the minimum remedial measures that we believe may remedy, those alleged conditions.¹

After carefully reviewing the evidence, we conclude that there is reasonable cause to believe that conditions at Glenwood violate the Fourteenth Amendment of the U.S. Constitution and that these violations are pursuant to a pattern or practice of resistance to the full enjoyment of rights protected by the Fourteenth Amendment. Specifically, we have reasonable cause to believe that the State of Iowa subjects Glenwood residents to unreasonable harm and risk of harm, in violation of their Fourteenth Amendment rights, by operating Glenwood in a manner that has subjected residents to uncontrolled and unsupervised experimentation, inadequate physical and behavioral healthcare, and inadequate protection from harm, including deficient safety and oversight mechanisms.

We thank the State for cooperating with our investigation and providing access to Glenwood’s facilities, staff, documents, data, and residents. We would like to work with the State to achieve a consensual resolution of the issues raised in this Notice. The lawyers assigned to this investigation will contact the State to begin discussions.

We are obliged, however, to advise you that 49 days after issuance of this Notice, the Attorney General may initiate a lawsuit under CRIPA to correct the alleged conditions we have

¹ The investigation into whether the State violates the rights of residents of Glenwood and Woodward Resource Centers under Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act, 42 U.S.C. §§ 12101 *et seq.*, to receive services in the most integrated setting appropriate, is ongoing.

identified if the State has not satisfactorily addressed them. 42 U.S.C. § 1997b(a)(1). Please also note that this Notice is a public document. It will be posted on the Civil Rights Division's website.

If you have any questions regarding this correspondence, please call Steven H. Rosenbaum, Chief of the Special Litigation Section, at (202) 616-3244.

Sincerely,

/s/Eric S. Dreiband

Eric S. Dreiband
Assistant Attorney General

cc: The Honorable Tom Miller
Iowa Attorney General

Kelly Kennedy Garcia
Director, Iowa Department of Human Services

Marsha Edgington
Superintendent, Woodward Resource Center
Interim Superintendent, Glenwood Resource Center

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