



# Senior & Long Term Care Division Community Services Bureau Big Sky Waiver Provider Heightened Scrutiny Evaluation

**PROVIDER:** BOULDER MEADOWS ASSISTED LIVING  
**SETTING ADDRESS:** PO BOX 1390, 302 W. 8<sup>TH</sup> AVENUE  
BIG TIMBER, MONTANA 59011

**DATE:** July 31, 2018

### Reasons for heightened scrutiny:

- The setting is located in or attached to a building that is also a nursing home/facility or hospital.
- The agency owns or operates multiple settings located on the same street/bock as this setting.

The Boulder Meadows Assisted Living Facility (ALF), Pioneer Medical Center, Critical Access Hospital with Emergency Room (CAH/ER) and Pioneer Medical Clinic, Rural Health Clinic (RHC) are all housed within the same block and owned by the same entity. The ALF is directly attached to a Critical Access Hospital. An on-site visit by Montana’s Quality Assurance staff confirm the two entities are separated by hallways and doors. Observation of this setting confirm it is not isolating nor institutional in nature.

The Boulder Meadows ALF is located in Big Timber, Montana. Big Timber reports a population of approximately 1,650. Big Timber is a rural community situated in Sweet Grass County. It is located midway between Billings (82 miles away) and Bozeman (62 miles away).

Boulder Meadows Assisted Living Facility (302 W 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Big Timber, Montana)



The ALF is located within a wing of a building that is attached to a hospital. The ALF is separated from the CAH/ER and RHC by hallways and doors. Each entity has its own distinct main entrance. The setting resides in a residential area. The general public can walk and bike on the roads surrounding the setting. A bus is available through the Hospitality House/Senior Center to pick up residents for visits on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday. The bus is reserved on Thursdays for trips out of town for appointments/shopping trips to Livingston, Billings or Bozeman.

Inside the ALF, meals are served at set times daily, with breakfast being made to order of their choosing, lunch is two options plus soup of day and/or salad bar options, supper includes a main option, or several other options if main option is not of their liking (this is soon to include two main options, plus other options). Members may choose to eat in their apartment, food of their own choosing, or to have a served meal supplied to them by staff. The setting offers privacy to members while using telephone, internet or other personal communication devices. Both single and double occupancy rooms are available. When sharing a room, members have the ability to choose their roommate. Room decorations and furniture are arranged at the discretion of the member. Members have the freedom to set their own daily routines for things such as hygiene, care delivery, recreation and meals. The facility provides members the opportunity to purchase Grab & Go Specials such as lattes, frappes, breakfast burrito bar and fresh fruit and vegetable baskets.

Providers are required to comply with Montana's waiver regulations, and specifically provider requirements with the regulations. The setting is physically accessible to members and the general public. For those members needing support to move about this setting, there are accommodations such as grab bars, seats in the bathroom and ramps for wheel chairs. This setting does not include any barriers which limit access such as Velcro strips, locked doors or locked cupboards or refrigerators. Members are able to enter and leave the facility at their convenience. For member security, the facility doors are locked at 7:00 p.m., but the member may ring the button at any time to gain admission. Chairs in the vestibule are available for members to rest as needed. The ALF encourages family and friends to visit members. The ALF encourages family involvement with the member and provides ample opportunities for family participation in activities at the facility. The facility does not have restricted visiting hours. In special situations, guests over 18 may stay a limited number of nights. There is a written admissions agreement that offers responsibilities/protections from eviction for members. Members can lock their room as well as lock their bathroom door for privacy. Staff knock on the door and/or ring a doorbell for access to the member's private room. The setting is arranged to ensure privacy during personal care. Members have full access to the home, including the kitchen, dining area, snack area and common areas.

Staff and volunteers receive training and continuing education related to member's rights upon new hire and reviewed yearly; other rules are reviewed quarterly. Members are provided with information about his/her rights in plain language and have a process available to them to file a grievance if they believe their rights have been violated.

Members in this setting are not required to receive medical, behavioral or therapy services on-

site; many residents choose to go to providers in Billings and/or the VA hospital to receive medical care.

The facility's calendar of events is available for members which includes activities such as bingo, music, trivia, exercise, puzzles/word games, refreshments, pie socials, parties and various groups such as reading and reminiscence. The facility provides for community involvement through reading the weekly local paper each week as an activity with staff. Members can attend community activities and services when he/she chooses such as shopping, religious services, scheduled appointments, and lunch with family and friends. This may include happenings at the Hospitality House/Senior Center, which offers a bus to pick up residents for visits on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday. The bus is reserved on Thursdays for trips out of town for appointments/shopping trips to Livingston, Billings or Bozeman. The newspaper also includes a weekly calendar of Community Events and Meetings, along with the local church schedules. There are also many community events involving Pioneer Medical Center and its residents, which Boulder Meadows residents are always welcome to attend as well.

## **PARTICIPANT INTERVIEW – BOULDER MEADOWS ALF, BIG TIMBER, MT**

**1a. Do you participate in community groups or other events in your community? Who usually goes with you?**

Participant Response: “I did when I first moved here but my MS keeps me from doing much.”

**1b. Do you have the opportunity to hang out with friends who do not live or participate here? If yes, how often do you hang out with them?**

Participant Response: “Sometimes. I don’t have any friends or family close anymore.”

**2. Are you able to go out and do the things you like to do, as often as you’d like?**

Participant Response: “I have a driver’s license and a wheel chair capable van. I can take it when I have a friend in town.”

**3. How are options of things to do presented to you?**

Participant Response: “By staff, the newspaper, online and throughout the building.”

**4. Do you have a way to get places when you want to do something outside your home?**

Participant Response: “I use my van sometimes. Or when it’s nice out I go places using my wheelchair.”

**5. How often did you go out for fun in the past month?**

Participant Response: “I haven’t because of the weather. My nephew from Utah will be here next month and we’ll go get dinner though.”

**6. Do community groups come to your home for entertainment or social gatherings?**

Participant Response: Sometimes.

**7. Do you have a paid job? Do you volunteer?**

Participant Response: “No, because of my MS”

**8. Who chose the place you work?**

Participant Response: N/A

**9. Do you have a way to get places you work?**

Participant Response: N/A

**PARTICIPANT INTERVIEW – BOULDER MEADOWS ALF, BIG TIMBER, MT  
(CONTINUED)**

**10. Do you take classes, training, or do something to help you get a job or a better job?**

Participant Response: N/A

**11. Have you voted? (In a local, state, or federal election?) If not, would you like to?**

Participant Response: “Yes”

**12. Can you see and/or talk to your family or friends at any time you choose?**

Participant Response: “Yes, I use my cell phone”

**13. Who decides your daily schedule?**

Participant Response: “I do.”

**14. If you leave to do something fun or go to work or an appointment, do you have to return by a certain time?**

Participant Response: “No”

**15. What happens if you choose not to leave your home during the day to attend work or other planned activities, or are otherwise unable to do so?**

Participant Response: “Nothing. I do that all the time”

**16. Who chose the place where you live?**

Participant Response: “I did.”

**17. Do you like where you live?**

Participant Response: “Yes.”

**18. Do you know who to ask if you want to live somewhere else?**

Participant Response: “Yes.”

**19. Are you able to decorate your room? Did you choose the decorations in your room?**

Participant Response: “I am.”

**PARTICIPANT INTERVIEW – BOULDER MEADOWS ALF, BIG TIMBER, MT  
(CONTINUED)**

**20. Do you choose what to buy with your money?**

Participant Response: “I do.”

**21. Can you get food at any time of the day, whenever you are hungry?**

Participant Response: “Yes. I just ask staff.”

## **STAFF INTERVIEW – BOULDER MEADOWS ALF, BIG TIMBER, MT**

### **1. How frequently did individuals go out for entertainment in the past month?**

Staff Response: “Probably 20 or more times.”

### **2. What types of community groups or other activities in the community do individuals engage in? Who do individuals usually go with? How do individuals get there?**

Staff Response: “Church, hair, shopping, senior center, family events.” “They go individually and with family or friends.”

### **3. Do individuals have any activities they are required to attend?**

Staff Response: “No.”

### **4. How do individuals see or make plans with their friends when they wish?**

Staff Response: “They usually use the phone.”

### **5. How frequently can individuals see and/or communicate with their families.**

Staff Response: “Daily”

### **6. How do individuals get places when they want to do something outside of the home?**

Staff Response: “They use the Community Bus, or friends and family.”

### **7. Do any individuals have a competitive, integrated, paid job or volunteer in the community.**

Staff Response: “No.”

### **8. Do individuals vote in local, state or federal elections?**

Staff Response: “Yes.”

### **9. What happens if individuals choose not to leave their home to attend planned activities or are otherwise unable to do so?**

Staff Response: “Nothing. That happens all the time.”

### **10. How do individuals choose what to buy with their money and how do they go out and spend it?**

Staff Response: “That is completely up to them or their families.”

### **11. How do individuals dictate their daily schedule?**

Staff Response: “That is pretty much up to them.”

**STAFF INTERVIEW – BOULDER MEADOWS ALF, BIG TIMBER, MT (CONTINUED)**

**12. How do individuals decide how they spend their free time?**

Staff Response: “That is also up to them. We try to encourage them to do activities. We try to make it fun.”

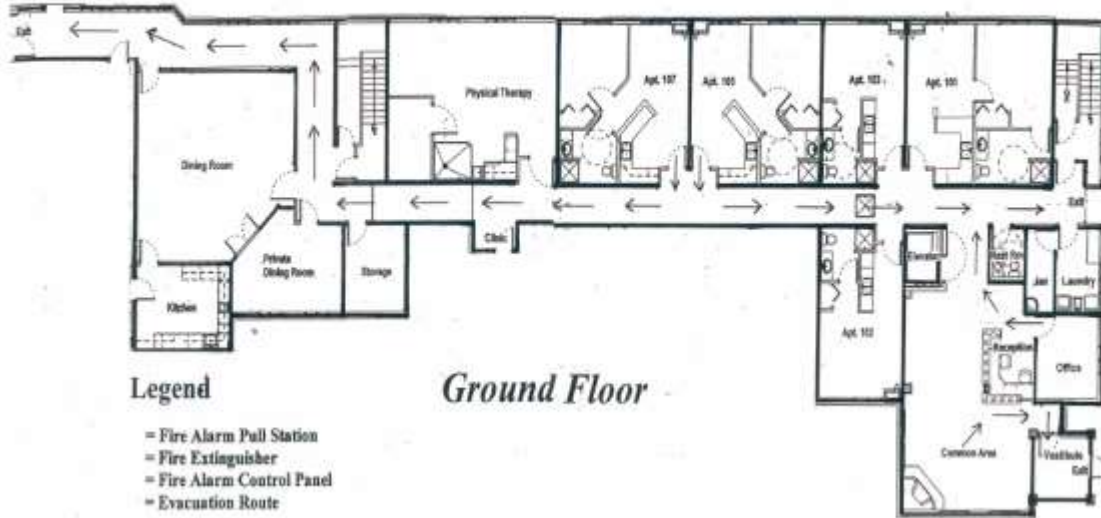
**13. How do individuals access food at any time?**

Staff Response: “We serve three meals a day and have a snack table available 24/7.”

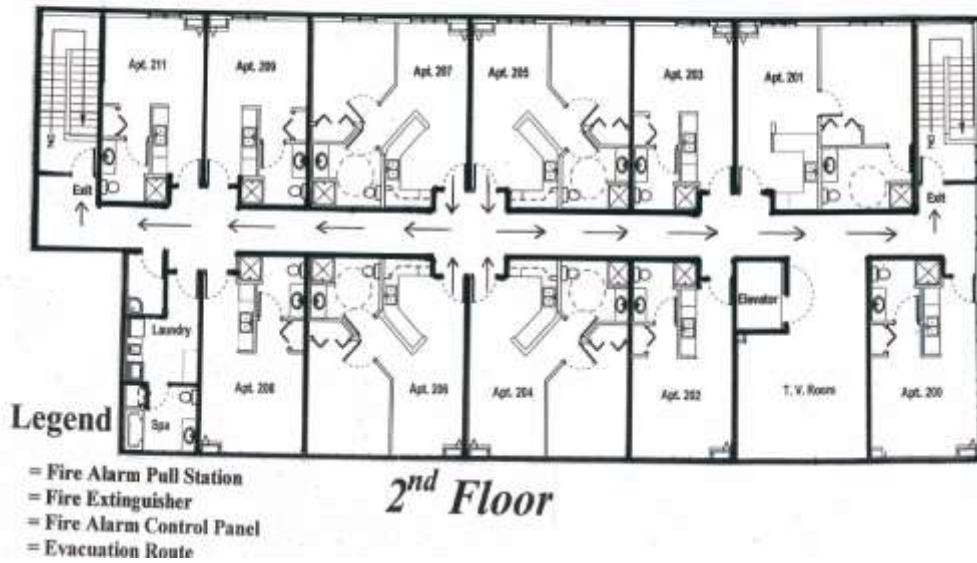


**FLOOR PLANS**

*Boulder Meadows Assisted Living*



*Boulder Meadows Assisted Living*



## PHOTOS

Entrance to the Boulder Meadows Assisted Living Facility (Google Maps)



Entrance to the Pioneer Medical Clinic:



Entrance to Pioneer Medical Center (Main Entrance/ER)



**PHOTOS (CONTINUED)**

Door separating the Assisted Living facility from the Rural Health Clinic it is attached to (on the same campus as).



Double door separating the Assisted Living facility from the Critical Access Hospital it is attached to (on the same campus as).



# GOOGLE MAPS

## Surrounding Area



## Surrounding Area (Zoom in)



<b>Additional Forms Available on Request</b>
<b>Form B (Provider Self-Assessment)</b>
<b>Form C (Onsite Validation Tool)</b>
<b>Form D (Boulder Meadows Meals Menu)</b>
<b>Form E (Boulder Meadows Calendar of Facility Events)</b>
<b>Form F (Calendar of Community Events)</b>
<b>Form G (Admission Agreement)</b>
<b>Form I (On-Site Evaluator Recommendation Report)</b>