

**From:** [Arianne Smith](#)  
**To:** [LC Audit Subcommittee](#)  
**Subject:** Public Comment Regarding the Closure of Ignite Teen Treatment and Associated RTCs  
**Date:** Thursday, January 16, 2025 1:29:34 PM

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Dear Madame Chair and Members of the Subcommittee,

I was unable to speak earlier to provide public comment regarding Ignite Teen Treatment, now operating under the name Moriah Behavioral Health, and I would like to take this opportunity to urge the committee to investigate the closure of this company and its five Residential Treatment Centers (RTCs).

As a licensed clinician, I am deeply concerned about the ongoing issues at Moriah Behavioral Health (formerly Ignite Teen Treatment). Yesterday, I sent an email outlining serious concerns about the company's practices and I urge you to review that information closely. In addition, I encourage you to take a closer look at the testimony of Rosie Banks, who continues to avoid accountability for the actions of this organization.

Madame Chair, I strongly agree with your statement that the welfare of children should be the primary concern. Unfortunately, Moriah Behavioral Health, formerly Ignite Teen Treatment, has consistently prioritized business decisions over the safety and well-being of the children in its care. This has led to numerous unsafe practices, including:

- The introduction of substances by staff members,
- Physical assault from a staff member toward a child,
- Other clients being forced to restrain a fellow client because staff members refused to use CPI (Crisis Prevention Intervention) techniques due to fear of injury, and
- Sexual assault by a staff member to a client

These are deeply disturbing allegations, and I urge this committee to take swift and thorough action to ensure the safety of the children under this company's care, as well as to prevent further harm in the future. It is critical that this organization be held accountable, and that proper steps are taken to safeguard the vulnerable populations they are entrusted with.

Thank you for your time and attention to this matter.

Best Regards,

Arianne Smith, LMFT

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