Action Request Transmittal
Developmental Disabilities Services

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Number: APD-AR-20-018  
Issue date: 3/12/2020  
Due date: 3/12/2020

Topic: Developmental Disabilities

Subject: Emergency Plans for ODDS Adult & Child Foster Care Providers - Responding to Infectious Disease and COVID19 (Coronavirus)

Applies to (check all that apply):

☐ All DHS employees  ☐ County Mental Health Directors  
☐ Area Agencies on Aging: {Select type}  ☐ Health Services  
☐ Aging and People with Disabilities  ☐ Office of Developmental Disabilities Services (ODDS)  
☐ Self Sufficiency Programs  ☐ ODDS Children’s Intensive In Home Services  
☒ County DD program managers  ☐ Stabilization and Crisis Unit (SACU)  
☐ Support Service Brokerage Directors  ☒ Other (please specify): Foster Care providers  
☐ ODDS Children’s Residential Services  
☐ Child Welfare Programs

Action required:

Emergency Plans for ODDS Adult and Child Foster Care Providers

All DD licensed/certified Adult and Child Foster Care Providers are required to immediately review their written emergency plans to ensure they sufficiently address strategies to mitigate and respond to an outbreak or pandemic of infectious disease including COVID-19. A written emergency plan is required for DD licensed/certified Adult Foster Care providers under Oregon Administrative Rule 411-360-0130(9)(g) and for ODDS Child Foster Care Providers under OAR 411-346-0190(18)(d).

DD licensed/certified Adult and Child Foster Care providers must submit plans to their Foster Care licensor at the local CDDP as soon as possible, but no later than Wednesday, March 25, 2020.
The emergency plan must include all requirements outlined under OAR 411-360-0130(9)(g) and 411-346-0190(18)(d), including the following:

- A written emergency plan that takes into consideration the needs of the individuals and addresses events such as a pandemic (e.g. immediate and continued access to medical treatment, continued access to medical supplies and equipment, behavior support needs anticipated in an emergency).

- A plan for relocation (including transporting and tracking individuals, notification to ODDS and the case management entity, etc.).

- A plan for ensuring adequate staffing to meet the life-sustaining and safety needs of individuals.

- A plan that addresses the needs of individuals (e.g. immediate and continued access to medical treatment, continued access to medical supplies and equipment, behavior support needs anticipated in an emergency, etc.).

- A system for preventing infectious disease; a system for identifying, reporting, monitoring, and treating symptoms of infectious disease; a system for responding to isolation and quarantine (at the direction of a public health entity).

- Documentation that staff are trained on standard precautions, infection control, and handwashing.

- Policies that ensure both individuals and staff remain home when they are sick.

- Verification that emergency contact information is current for each individual using services.

- Plan for maintaining sufficient medical, sanitation, and food supplies.

- Coordination with the employment or day program provider.

The plan should also include the expectations outlined in Policy Transmittal 20-015\(^1\), as well as the following:

- ODDS is asking that providers document agreement that they will not accept new referrals to a home where a person or caregiver has suspected or confirmed case of COVID 19. This agreement may be documented in the Provider Emergency Plan.

- Policies and expectations for visitors (e.g. handwashing, prohibiting visitors exhibiting symptoms of infectious disease, etc.).

• A plan for communicating with individuals and families.

• Strategies for coordinating with federal, state, and local health officials, and following direction by a federal, state, or local public health official, including procedures for notifying individuals regarding suspected or confirmed COVID 19.

• Procedures for notification to ODDS Emergency Management Specialist in the event of potential exposure, outbreak, or closure, due to COVID 19 or other infectious disease at: ODDS.INFO@dhsoha.state.or.us.

Training for Direct Support Staff

Provider agencies have also been expected to document that employment professionals and direct support professionals are trained on the provider emergency plan and the health and safety policies and procedures. Generally, this information is requested during an ODDS licensing review; however, verification of this training may be requested sooner to ensure providers are prepared for responding to an outbreak of infectious disease. Training requirements apply regardless of the relationship of the direct support professional to the individual(s) they are working with.

More Resources and Information:

Providers must continue to remain up to date on expectations and guidance from Federal, State, and Local health officials. Provider may also request technical assistance from ODDS regarding what should be included in their written emergency plans, as well as their policies and procedures for maintaining health and safety.

More resources can also be found via the links below. Subscribe to receive information update alerts for these websites when it is available:

• OHA website: www.healthoregon.org/coronavirus.


• ODDS Provider Expectations Webinar: https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/3518047287725902092

Please send questions in advance to: ODDS.INFO@dhsoha.state.or.us

DHS 0078 (01.19)
• Email questions to ODDS: ODDS.FieldLiaison@dhsoha.state.or.us

• Responses will be posted on the DD Staff Tools page under FAQs here: http://www.dhs.state.or.us/spd/tools/dd/cm/

Field/stakeholder review:  ☐ Yes  ☒ No
If yes, reviewed by:

If you have any questions about this action request, contact:

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<th>Contact(s): ODDS COVID-19 team</th>
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Email: ODDS.Questions@dhsoha.state.or.us.