

# Action Request Transmittal Developmental Disabilities Services



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**Number: APD-AR-20-023**

**Issue date: 3/12/2020**

**Topic:** Developmental Disabilities

**Due date:** 3/12/2020

**Subject:** Emergency Plans for ODDS Supported Living Providers - Responding to Infectious Disease and COVID19 (Coronavirus)

**Applies to (check all that apply):**

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> All DHS employees                     | <input type="checkbox"/> County Mental Health Directors  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Area Agencies on Aging: {Select type} | <input type="checkbox"/> Health Services   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aging and People with Disabilities    | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Office of Developmental Disabilities Services (ODDS)             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Self Sufficiency Programs             | <input type="checkbox"/> ODDS Children's Intensive In Home Services                                  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> County DD program managers | <input type="checkbox"/> Stabilization and Crisis Unit (SACU)  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Support Service Brokerage Directors   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other ( <i>please specify</i> ): ODDS Supported Living Providers |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ODDS Children's Residential Services  |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Child Welfare Programs                |  |

**Action required:**

**Emergency Plans for ODDS Supported Living Providers**

Oregon Administrative Rules 411-328-0660(3) and 411-323-0060(1) require that ODDS Supported Living providers have policies and procedures for response to emergencies and disasters and that provide for the health and safety of individuals.

ODDS requires that all Supported Living provider agencies immediately review their written plans, policies, and procedures to ensure they sufficiently address strategies to mitigate and respond to an outbreak or pandemic of infectious disease including COVID-19. Providers must submit plans, policies, and procedures, to ODDS as soon as possible, but **no later than Wednesday, March 25, 2020**. Email plans, policies, and procedures to ODDS at: [ODDS.Questions@dhsola.state.or.us](mailto:ODDS.Questions@dhsola.state.or.us).

The emergency plan, policies, and procedures must include all requirements outlined under [OAR 411-328-0060](#) and [OAR 411-323-0060\(1\)](#), including the following:

- Policies and procedures that provide for the safety of individuals and for responses to emergencies and disasters (e.g. immediate and continued access to medical treatment, continued access to medical supplies and equipment, behavior support needs anticipated in an emergency, etc).
- Written safety supports developed as required by the ISP team that adequately reflect risks, including risks related to the outbreak or pandemic of an infectious disease including COVID-19.
- A plan for ensuring adequate staffing to meet the life-sustaining and safety needs of individuals.
- 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.
- Policies and procedures related to maintaining adequate food supplies and meal planning, preparation, service, and storage.
- Plan for maintaining sufficient medical, sanitation, and food supplies.

The plan should also include the expectations outlined in [Policy Transmittal 20-015<sup>1</sup>](#), 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 care giver has a 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.).

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<sup>1</sup> <http://www.dhs.state.or.us/policy/spd/transmit/pt/2020/pt20015.pdf>

- 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@dhsosha.state.or.us](mailto:ODDS.INFO@dhsosha.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](http://www.healthoregon.org/coronavirus).
- ODDS website: <https://www.oregon.gov/DHS/SENIORS-DISABILITIES/DD/Pages/ODDS-COVID-19-Information.aspx>
- OHA Guidance on Infection Control for Personal Care Workers: <https://www.oregon.gov/oha/PH/DISEASES/CONDITIONS/DISEASESAZ/Emerging%20Respiratory%20Infections/COVID-19-Interim-Infection-Control-Guidance-Home-Care-Workers.pdf>
- ODDS Provider Expectations Webinar: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/3518047287725902092>  
Please send questions in advance to: [ODDS.INFO@dhsosha.state.or.us](mailto:ODDS.INFO@dhsosha.state.or.us)

- Email questions to ODDS: [ODDS.FieldLiaison@dhs.ohio.gov](mailto:ODDS.FieldLiaison@dhs.ohio.gov)
- Responses will be posted on the DD Staff Tools page under FAQs here: <http://www.dhs.ohio.gov/spd/tools/dd/cm/>

**Field/stakeholder review:**  Yes  No

**If yes, reviewed by:**

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

Contact(s): ODDS COVID-19 team	
Phone:	Fax:
Email: <a href="mailto:ODDS.Questions@dhs.ohio.gov">ODDS.Questions@dhs.ohio.gov</a> .	