June 10, 2020

To: CDDPs, Brokerages, Providers and ODDS Stakeholders

From: Lilia Teninty, Director, Office of Developmental Disabilities Services

Oregon’s overall re-opening strategy during COVID-19 is happening through a series of three phases. Counties may be in different phases at the same time. The majority of Oregon counties have been approved for Phase 2 reopening, while some remain in Phase 1 and Multnomah County is at baseline status.

ODDS recently released transmittal PT 20-074 that has six updated worker guides for Phase 2 of Oregon’s reopening.

Some major changes for the developmental disabilities system in Phase 2 of reopening includes:

- Family members, close friends and guardians are added as essential visitors for 24-hour residential and I/DD foster homes. Protocols for essential visitors are established.
- Upon ODDS approval, limited congregate services (Employment Path, Day Support Activities) and Discovery may resume. Please view the Employment Worker Guide for detailed information.

Additional guidance in the worker’s guides, regardless of what phase a county is in, includes:

- Licensing, certification and endorsement reviews will no longer be optional or postponed for most provider types starting July 1, 2020.
- Quality assurance reviews of case management entities will resume July 1, 2020.
- Direct Support Professional training requirements will revert to normal November 1, 2020.
- Behavior professionals are considered essential only when their work cannot be completed remotely. Child protective services workers are essential for programs who may serve children. Nursing service
providers are considered essential. Guardians are added as essential, with conditions.

- Masks are required for agency staff when within 6-feet of a person being supported.
- 24-hour residential licensing reviews will occur with same day notice.
- Functional Assessments will be reviewed during licensing/certification reviews.

People with I/DD can continue to go out for essential activities, such as work, grocery shopping and medical appointments, and outdoor activities and recreation with appropriate physical distancing and safety precautions.

For additional COVID-19 policy information and resources from ODDS, go to: https://www.oregon.gov/DHS/SENIORS-DISABILITIES/DD/Pages/ODDS-COVID-19-Information.aspx

I appreciate everything that people with intellectual and developmental disabilities, family members, providers and case managers are doing to support health and safety.

Sincerely,

Lilia Teninty
Director
Office of Developmental Disabilities Services

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