

News Release

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ODHS stands in support with the LGBTQIA2S+ community and continues its commitment to gender-inclusive policies for all

(Salem) – In light of recent attention on agency policies, the Oregon Department of Human Services stands in support with the LGBTQIA2S+ community and affirms its commitment to gender inclusivity in all aspects of our work. We are committed to our [Equity North Star](#) and its values of inclusivity, equity, service and well-being.

Within our Child Welfare Division, we are committed to the equity and inclusivity principles of our [Vision for Transformation](#). The Child Welfare Division stands in support of transgender, non-binary, gender-fluid and other LGBTQIA2S+ children, young people and families, including those who are in foster care and those who have been adopted.

At a time when gender diverse people, policies, and laws are under attack, it is important to reinforce our values and practices related to the children and families we serve. We are committed to creating a safe and supportive environment for all children and young people, regardless of their gender identity. Gender inclusive policies provide a range of benefits including [improved mental health, safety, and well-being](#).

Oregon Child Welfare's administrative rules – specifically [OAR 413-200-0308](#) and [OAR 413-200-0352](#) – have legal requirements that ensure our resource and potential adoptive parents have the ability to create safe and supportive environments for children and young adults experiencing foster care.

We invite you to learn more about policies, requirements and training for resource and potential adoptive families by [visiting our website](#).

These Child Welfare Division policies is just one way that ODHS is embracing the values of the Equity North Star. We are proud of the work our staff do each day to deliver services that are equitable, inclusive and accessible to all who call Oregon home.

About the Oregon Department of Human Services

The mission of the Oregon Department of Human Services is to help Oregonians in their own communities achieve wellbeing and independence through opportunities that protect, empower, respect choice and preserve dignity.

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