



# Oregon

Kate Brown, Governor

**Department of Human Services**

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**RE:** NF-20-92 – **Information Memorandum**

**Date:** June 10, 2020

**TO:** Nursing Facility Providers, Assisted Living,  
Residential Care and Memory Care Communities.

**FROM:** DHS Safety Oversight and Quality Unit

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## **Elder Abuse Awareness and Prevention Summit Offered Complimentary to Providers on June 15**

Please join the Oregon Health Care Association (OHCA), the Department of Human Service (DHS), and LeadingAge Oregon for the “Elder Abuse Awareness and Prevention Summit.” This event will be held virtually on June 15 from 1:00-4:00 p.m. and is being provided complimentary to registrants to support providers during this difficult time. Register [here](#).

The event will provide educational content and also commemorate World Elder Abuse Awareness Day, which is held annually on June 15. The purpose of this important day is to provide an opportunity for communities around the world to promote a better understanding of abuse and neglect of older persons by raising awareness of the cultural, social, economic, and demographic processes affecting elder abuse and neglect.

### **Program Sessions**

- **The Big Picture on Resident Rights: Update from Adult Protective Services**, Allison McKenzie, Operations and Policy Analyst, Office of Adult Abuse Prevention and Investigation; While a community is wise to have in place a protocol for investigating and reporting suspected abuse, generally, the legal reporting requirements become the roadmap for how the provider must proceed and what steps it must take. In this session, representatives from the State of Oregon will discuss the current data and trends regarding abuse reporting during the current pandemic. Attendees will also be reminded of their responsibility to

report abuse and neglect during the current pandemic, and why it is more critical than ever that all Oregonians take an active stand against elder abuse.

- **The Line Between Resident Rights, COVID-19, Protection, and Abuse and Neglect: DHS Policy Update**, Jack Honey, Safety, Oversight and Quality Administrator, Aging and People with Disabilities; Long-term care and community-based care providers have been doing an excellent job implementing protocols to keep physical distance between people and control the spread of COVID-19 within facilities. In this session, Safety Oversight and Quality (SOQ) at the Department of Human Services (DHS), will discuss the most up-to-date information from DHS SOQ on COVID-19-related matters, including information on when COVID-19 protections and social distancing become abuse and neglect, updates on executive orders, return to work, and resident admission guidance, required reporting, inter-agency/public health coordination, and more.
- **Reducing Loneliness and Social Isolation Among Senior Living Residents**, Hayden Resnick, OTS, Occupational Therapy Doctorate Student, Pacific University, Dakota Stewart, OTS, Occupational Therapy Student, Pacific University; More than 40 percent of senior living residents regularly experience loneliness. Research indicates that loneliness is a risk factor for many physical and mental health issues and can lead to an increase in mortality. In this presentation, we will discuss new approaches that help care teams communicate with residents regarding loneliness, low/no-cost environmental solutions that support meaningful interaction among staff and residents, meaningful activities that support whole person wellness, and resources to help keep residents connected during COVID-19.
- **Creating Meaning and Engagement in COVID-19 World**, Lynne Jensen, CTRS, Recreational Activities Consultant, Marquis Companies; Providers across the state have been testing creative and innovative ways to engage residents with their families, staff, and other residents in an effort to create meaning and engagement throughout the current pandemic. In this session, the presenter will discuss the experiences and lessons learned from the implementation of new programming. The presenter will examine

successful engagement and also explore areas of needed improvement. Attendees will discover additional ways to increase engagement and reduce social isolation from an experienced provider.

We hope you can join us at this important event.

For general information about the DHS Office of Safety, Oversight and Quality, visit the DHS Web site at [www.oregon.gov/DHS/](http://www.oregon.gov/DHS/).

If you have questions about this alert, please contact the Nursing Facility Licensing Unit at [NFLicensing@state.or.us](mailto:NFLicensing@state.or.us), or the Community Based Care unit at [CBC.TEAM@state.or.us](mailto:CBC.TEAM@state.or.us).