

# Take A Stand

## Support Medication Safety



We invite you to partner with DHS in our *Safe Medication Administration* campaign. We have developed resources and tools for caregivers providing important information about administering medications - as ordered and on time. *Help us in protecting our clients!*

### Why is this important?

The Institute of Safe Medication Practices reported that in a single year 9 million individuals were hospitalized and another 18 million individuals were treated in the emergency room due to medication errors.

There are other consequences to medication errors besides the impact on the individual who did not get their medication as ordered. If DHS determines a medication error is abuse, the individual may be held responsible which could impact the individual's current or future employment. ***The GOOD NEWS - medication errors can be prevented by implementing a few basic steps.***

### Here's what you can do:

- Make sure you have training before you begin working with medications;
- Everybody gets into bad habits take a refresher training;
- Use the Safe Medication website:  
[www.oregon.gov/dhs/licensing/Pages/safe-med-administration.aspx](http://www.oregon.gov/dhs/licensing/Pages/safe-med-administration.aspx)
- Talk with co-workers and management about potential barriers – *join in the medication safety conversation!* **AND**
- Share the website with others.

***It Matters – Take Control of Medication Administration***