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<https://www.oregon.gov/dhs/SENIORS-DISABILITIES/DD/Pages/messages.aspx>

Dec. 3, 2021

To: ODDS Providers and Partners

From: Lilia Teninty, Director, Office of Developmental Disabilities Services (ODDS)

Subject: Temporary staffing for 24-hour group homes

In response to provider input, ODHS and ODDS leadership are shifting resources from support staffing contracts established through the Emergency Management Unit to existing 24-hour group home (child and adult) provider agencies. This will allow providers to directly hire temporary staff for 24-hour residential group homes.

ODDS will allow time for current staffing contracts to wind down. This funding for temporary staffing will be available to qualified provider agencies for three months. Providers should continue to use grant funding already issued for retention and recruitment of permanent staff. Here is the expectation of the current temporary staffing process:

- ODDS will prioritize approving applications from existing 24-hour group homes with an “unstable home,” as indicated in the ODDS crisis staffing survey completed in October and November.
- ODDS will reimburse provider \$30 per hour for staff working in a home that has had a COVID-19 outbreak or employee shortage due to COVID-19. Additional costs of \$15.23 will be off-set by the provider from the standard rate of Medicaid payments received by provider for individuals residing in the home(s).
- ODDS will not pay for any hours worked over 40 per week or any overtime accrued by staff.

- ODDS will pay \$30 per hour for up to eight hours of training for new temporary staff.
- Providers who promote a current permanent employee may add that employee to a temporary staffing contract. Before doing so, the provider must hire a new permanent employee to fill the vacancy created by the temporary promotion.
- Providers must follow current [ODDS Reopening Guidance](#).

Prior to receiving support, providers [must fill out an application](#) and sign an agreement letter. An example of the [agreement is online](#). Applications are due by Dec. 31, 2021.

We hope this short-term funding for temporary staff allows providers additional time to recruit and train permanent staff to continue to ensure people in homes are healthy and safe.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lilia". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the beginning.

Lilia Teninty
Director
Office of Developmental Disabilities Services

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<http://www.oregon.gov/DHS/SENIORS-DISABILITIES/DD/Pages/messages.aspx>

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