



Date: June 1, 2018

To: All ODDS Staff and Stakeholders

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

An important change is occurring in the way the Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities system will be documenting the licensing and certification requirements of children and adult foster homes.

The current process is locally based and labor intensive. It is also very difficult for ODDS to analyze data and identify trends that need to be addressed.

To overcome these barriers, ODDS is adding foster care provider licensing into the ASPEN system. ASPEN is a federal software program long used by many agencies regulated by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). Oregon's licensing team has been using ASPEN to track licensing compliance for group homes and employment programs since 2004. The current project adds foster care licensing and certifying roles into ASPEN.

Using ASPEN will streamline the licensing process and make it less labor intensive. ODDS will no longer need to retrieve paper copies of files to glean necessary information for reporting. Equally important, information can be pulled from ASPEN to analyze problem trends. That will help ensure appropriate training or other interventions can be put into place to protect the safety of the individuals living in Oregon's I/DD foster homes.

On June 1, we begin a two-month pilot of the ASPEN system in Jackson, Benton, Lane, Washington and Clackamas Counties. Training for the pilot counties was completed in May.

During the pilot, weekly phone check-ins will be held with the pilot counties. The group will give feedback on processes and ideas for improvements. This input will inform the statewide roll out which is scheduled for October. Training for the statewide rollout is scheduled for August and September.

In addition to the pilot counties, a field group of Washington, Clackamas, Benton and Jackson CDDPs, has been actively involved in planning this transition. They have been invaluable as we develop and modify training modules and more.

We are looking forward to continuing this collaborative process as we proceed through the pilot and to ensure the statewide roll out is positive for all.

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-
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