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Sept. 30, 2021

To: ODDS Partners and Providers

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

Subject: Policy changes during current staffing crisis

The Office of Developmental Disabilities Services (ODDS) recently issued guidance on policy and licensing changes to maintain health and safety during the current provider and case management entity (CME) staffing crisis. These policy options should be a last resort when regular practices are not feasible as a direct result of the current staffing crisis. The health and safety of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD) is the priority.

Please review the detailed policy and worker's guide [online](#) and in transmittal [PT 21-087](#).

Some highlights of changes include:

- Changes to the licensing process
- Temporary capacity changes for 24-hour residential homes, including the effects on rates.
- Designated authority for CMEs to review and authorize certain types of exceptions.
- Placement and funding changes for ODDS-eligible children under the custody of Child Welfare
- Support for children returning home from residential settings
- Increase local approval authority for CMEs

The worker's guide also provides specific guidance for temporary living situations when an individual cannot be safely served in their permanent

home due to staffing shortages and must temporarily reside in another home.

We must all work through this current staffing crisis together. I hope these changes help ease some work burden while keeping our focus on ensuring people receive the support they need.

There is a Zoom webinar scheduled at **8:30 a.m. Wednesday, Oct. 6** for providers and CMEs to go over these changes. The webinar will be recorded. Join the webinar online at:

<https://www.zoomgov.com/j/1615379654?pwd=WmN1TVRhOGdld3lSc1hQVk1oV2tBdz09>

Passcode: 182597

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Webinar ID: 161 537 9654

Passcode: 182597

Live captioning link: <https://www.streamtext.net/player?event=DHSOHA>

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

*Previous ODDS Director's Messages are available
at [http://www.oregon.gov/DHS/SENIORS-
DISABILITIES/DD/Pages/messages.aspx](http://www.oregon.gov/DHS/SENIORS-DISABILITIES/DD/Pages/messages.aspx)*

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