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Oct. 14, 2021

To: ODDS Group Home Providers

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

Subject: Staffing shortage assistance for group homes

As part of our overall efforts to ensure people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD) can remain safely in their current homes while staffing issues remain a challenge, the Oregon Department of Human Services (ODHS) has initiated a contract with a healthcare staffing company to bring in staff to support 24-hour residential settings.

ODDS is using the survey data provided by group home providers (Thank you to those who filled out the survey!) to identify homes in need and is prioritizing based on survey response time, severity of need and the number of staff available by the contractor in that area.

ODDS will call provider agencies in need of staff to gather additional information. When staff are available and assigned to a home, ODDS will initiate a contract with the receiving provider. These contracts:

- Are initially for 30 days, with an option to extend an additional 30 days upon request.
- Will expire Dec. 31, 2021.
- Require a copay of \$25 per staff hour of support for the first 30 days. The rate for staff hours will increase if additional time is requested and approved. This copay will be used to help cover the costs of the staffing contract and will ensure we're complying with Medicaid regulations.

- Require group home providers to train contracted staff to work in their homes.
- Require providers to follow current ODDS [Reopening Guidance](#).

Prior to receiving support, providers must sign an agreement letter. An example of the letter is [online](#).

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-
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