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July 15, 2022

To: All ODDS Staff and Partners
From: Lilia Teninty, Director, Office of Developmental Disabilities Services
Subject: Extension of federal public health emergency

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) has **extended the federal public health emergency (PHE) for COVID-19** that was scheduled to expire today, July 15, 2022, **for 90 days to Oct. 13, 2022**.

The PHE has allowed the Office of Developmental Disabilities Services (ODDS) and federal government to take actions to protect the health of those receiving services and working in Oregon's developmental disabilities system.

This extension allows us more time prepare for the transition back to our standard procedures. Examples of temporary actions and exemptions that will end when the PHE ends include:

- Video calls to conduct level of care (LOC), Oregon Needs Assessments (ONAs) and risk assessments remotely.
- Preexisting authorizations and the ability to extend service authorizations for one year without doing a new Individual Support Plan (ISP).
- Parents and guardians of minors with an intellectual and developmental disability (I/DD) serving as their child's paid caregiver.
- Community based service programs using verbal consent for person-centered service plans.

ODDS will issue communications with formal policy directives and instructions to support staff and partners through these transitions when the

PHE ends. CMS has committed to giving a 60-day notice before the PHE ends.

Thank you to all of you who have been caring for Oregonians with intellectual and developmental disabilities during the challenges of this ongoing public health emergency.

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>

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