



Oregon

Kate Brown, Governor

Department of Human Services
Office of Developmental Disabilities Services
500 Summer St. NE E-09
Salem, OR 97301-1073

March 17, 2020

To individuals receiving ODDS services, their families, and residential providers:

This message is to inform you about steps that the Office of Developmental Disabilities Services (ODDS) is taking regarding coronavirus and COVID-19. COVID-19 is a virus that makes people feel unwell. People with other health issues are most at-risk if they get this virus.

Based on public health recommendations, ODDS is not allowing any non-essential visitors to 24-hour residential group homes, adult foster care or supported living (when your provider owns or rents the home). We are doing this to help protect your health and safety and limit your exposure to this virus.

“Essential” visitors means staff, emergency workers and caregivers, among others. “Non-essential” visitors would include people like friends, family and other visitors who don’t provide important care to you or others in the home.

We know this is difficult news for you and your family. ODDS wants to do everything possible to keep you and your loved ones safe during this time. Please work with your provider to make sure you have a plan to communicate with your friends and loved ones by phone or video chat.

This decision is in effect until May 31, 2020 but may updated as the situation changes. ODDS will update this guidance, as needed.

Remember to keep yourself safe and stay home if you feel ill and wash your hands frequently to stop the spread of germs. There is a helpful video online to explain: <https://youtu.be/MJ8eeC-tVD4>

Thank you for your understanding during this difficult time.

Lilia Teninty
Director, Office of Developmental Disabilities Services

“Assisting People to Become Independent, Healthy and Safe”

You can find out more about COVID-19 and how to protect yourself on the Oregon Health Authority's website,

<https://www.oregon.gov/oha/PH/DISEASESCONDITIONS/DISEASESAZ/Pages/emerging-respiratory-infections.aspx>

Materials and information from ODDS on COVID-19 is at:

<https://www.oregon.gov/DHS/SENIORS-DISABILITIES/DD/Pages/ODDS-COVID-19-Information.aspx>