

# Policy Transmittal Developmental Disabilities Services



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**Number: DD-PT-22-008**  
**Issue date: 1/20/2022**

**Topic:** Developmental Disabilities

**Due date:**

**Transmitting (check the box that best applies):**

- New policy   
  Policy change   
  Policy clarification   
  Executive letter  
 Administrative Rule   
  Manual update   
  Other:

**Applies to (check all that apply):**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> All ODHS Employees                    | <input type="checkbox"/> County Mental Health Directors   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Area Agencies on Aging: {Select type} | <input type="checkbox"/> Health Services  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aging and People with Disabilities    | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Office of Developmental Disabilities Services (ODDS)  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Self Sufficiency Programs             | <input type="checkbox"/> ODDS Children’s Intensive In Home Services   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> County DD Program Managers | <input type="checkbox"/> Stabilization and Crisis Unit (SACU)   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Support Service Brokerage Directors   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other ( <i>please specify</i> ): CDDP Services Coordinators, Designated Referral Contacts, and Child Foster Home Certifiers |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ODDS Children’s Residential Services  |   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Child Welfare Programs     |   |

<b>Policy/rule title:</b>	Placement Planning for Children in the Legal Custody of Child Welfare		
<b>Policy/rule number(s):</b>		<b>Release number:</b>	
<b>Effective date:</b>	February 1, 2022	<b>Expiration date:</b>	
<b>References:</b>			
<b>Web address:</b>			

**Discussion/interpretation:**

This policy replaces APD-PT-14-038, which is obsolete.

This policy is being implemented to allow greater flexibility and more timely decision-

making when exploring placement options for children who are in the legal custody of Child Welfare. It eliminates the need to rule out the option of a Child Welfare-funded foster care placement with DD-funded In-home supports before choosing a DD-funded foster care placement.

### **Implementation/transition instructions:**

When Child Welfare (CW) and the Community Developmental Disabilities Program (CDDP) are working together as a team to identify a placement option that best meets a child's needs, placement options are to be explored through choice advising. If a foster care placement is the chosen option and the potential foster provider is not a relative of the child, the team may choose a DD-funded foster care placement without first ruling out the option of a CW-funded foster care placement with DD-funded In-home supports. However, if the team determines a CW-funded foster care placement with DD-funded In-home supports offers the best services and supports to the child, that option remains available.

When exploring placement options for a child in the legal custody of Child Welfare, it is important for the team to consider the following:

#### **Are there permanency planning issues which may be impacted by the decision?**

For children (especially younger children) who have a permanency plan of adoption or guardianship, be mindful that CW-funded foster care placements with DD-funded In-home supports can be maintained post guardianship and adoption, supporting continuity of care. Choosing a DD-funded foster care placement could complicate future ability of the child to achieve adoption or guardianship. Consider if consultation with a CW Permanency Consultant could be helpful.

#### **Are there Personal Support Workers (PSWs) readily available in the area?**

When PSWs are not readily available in the foster family's local community, a DD-funded foster care placement may be most appropriate. If a DD-funded foster care placement is the chosen service, the prospective foster provider would be the individual responsible for meeting the child's support needs.

#### **When a DD-funded foster care placement occurs in a CW-certified resource family (foster provider) home, it is important to ensure clarity of cross-division rules, supports and requirements.**

Be mindful that the CW resource family may not be familiar with ODDS foster care requirements and expectations. Therefore, it is important that the CDDP Services Coordinator for the child placed with the CW-certified resource family have a conversation with the resource family and educate them about ODDS foster care rules,

requirements, and expectations. The resource family will need to follow both the requirements and rules of CW and ODDS. Communication and collaboration between the Services Coordinator, CW caseworker, CW certifier, and CW certified resource family is important to ensure all are aware of the requirements and available supports. A discussion of each team member's unique role and a communication plan can be helpful when both CW and the CDDP are involved.

If the most appropriate service setting for the child is placement with a relative, a DD-funded foster care placement is not an option.

ODDS is prohibited from funding relative foster care, as it is a violation of statute. If a child is placed with a relative, DD-funded In-home supports may be considered.

**Training/communication plan:**

This transmittal will be discussed during the next Monthly Transmittal Review. Please send questions in advance to [ODDS.Questions@dhsosha.state.or.us](mailto:ODDS.Questions@dhsosha.state.or.us)

The Monthly Transmittal Reviews are held the second Wednesday of every month at 2 pm using the Zoom platform. Please register in advance for these meetings: <https://www.zoomgov.com/meeting/register/vJlsc-qvqD8iGURx5OQk8TAdIS6Arg9ZAf4>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing an appointment and information about joining the meeting. American Sign Language (ASL) and live captioning will be provided. To request other accommodations or languages, please send an email to [ODDS.Questions@dhsosha.state.or.us](mailto:ODDS.Questions@dhsosha.state.or.us) at least three business days prior to the meeting.

*If you have any questions about this policy, contact:*

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