TO: Behavioral Health Adult Foster Home Providers FROM: Jane-Ellen Weidanz, APD Deputy Director of Policy RE: Rate and Wage Study to launch beginning Jan. 29, 2024

A contractor working for the Oregon Department of Human Services (ODHS) will begin seeking responses for a rate and wage study of community-based and in-home providers who serve people with disabilities and older adults on Jan. 29, 2024.

This is a comprehensive study that should be filled out by an administrator, executive director, manager, or owner/operator.

The survey was developed because of the essential role that you play. Individuals who receive services and supports from ODHS rely on being able to access your essential services. Your expertise and dedication are highly valued by ODHS.

Provider participation in the study is crucial to ensuring ODHS collects the data it needs to advocate for effective Medicaid-funded reimbursement rates for services and supports. These rates ensure people in Oregon have access to quality providers and direct-care workers.

This study is the result of direction provided during the 2023 Oregon Legislative Session and will conclude with distribution of a written report to the Joint Committee on Ways and Means or Emergency Board by the end of September 2024. The first phase of this project began last year when ODHS established work groups to help inform the study process (including representatives from behavioral health adult foster homes).

The APD-ODDS Rate and Wage Survey is being conducted by <u>Burns & Associates</u>. On Monday you'll receive an email from Burns & Associates that contains an Excel spreadsheet and instructions for how to fill it out along with links to other support materials. Those resources can also be accessed here <u>Rate and Wage Survey support</u> <u>materials</u>.

If you have questions, please contact Regan Sheeley at <u>regan.sheeley@odhs.oregon.gov</u>.

