

Tom van der Veen

Authorized Signature

Number: APD-PT-16-016
Issue date: 5/13/2016

Topic: Licensing

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 DHS employees | <input type="checkbox"/> County Mental Health Directors |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Area Agencies on Aging | <input type="checkbox"/> Health Services |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Aging and People with Disabilities | <input 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 type="checkbox"/> County DD Program Managers | <input type="checkbox"/> Stabilization and Crisis Unit (SACU) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ODDS Children’s Residential Services | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify): |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Child Welfare Programs | |

Policy/rule title:	Assessing Safety for AFH Residents with Cognitive or Behavioral Impairments or Dementia		
Policy/rule number(s):	OAR 4121-050-0600 to 411-050-0690	Release no:	
Effective date:	Immediately upon issuance	Expiration:	
References:	OAR 411-050-0670, Inspections		
Web address:			

Discussion/interpretation: This policy clarifies expectations for the local licensing authority when it is conducting an inspection of the home for compliance with AFH rules. In particular, it directs licensors to assess home safety issues when residents may have cognitive or behavioral impairments including, but not limited to, diagnosed dementia.

Implementation/transition instructions: Adult Foster Homes are home to thousands of vulnerable Oregonians who have some form of dementia, or who have other cognitive or behavioral impairments which place them at risk. Some of these

residents have official medical diagnoses of dementia, but others do not, even if they exhibit signs of disorientation, forgetfulness or wandering behavior. When there is a medical diagnosis of dementia the resident's care plan frequently will require the home to be made safe and secure, such as requiring the installation of alarms on exit doors to alert the Provider in the event the resident elopes. However, it is the responsibility of the licenser to inspect the home for the protection of each resident, regardless of diagnosis.

If, upon inspection, a licenser learns that a resident may be at risk if he or she leaves the home unattended, whether or not the resident has a dementia diagnosis, the licenser must have a discussion with the Provider about installing protective alarms or using other protective devices to alert the Provider if the resident goes out into the community unattended. The licenser must be sure to inspect each possible means of egress from the home and determine which exits should be alarmed, including exterior fence gates.

Training/communication plan: This policy will be posted on the Licensing Staff Tools Intranet site.

Local/branch action required: Implement this policy upon issuance and contact OLRO or APD Central Office with any questions.

Central office action required: Provide technical assistance to local licensing staff as needed.

Field/stakeholder review: Yes No

If yes, reviewed by: APD Policy; APD Operations Committee

Filing instructions:

If you have any questions about this policy, contact:

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