Oregon DHS: Aging and People with Disabilities

Adult Foster Home Provider Alert

Policy updates, rule clarifications and announcements

Date: August 14, 2023

To: APD Adult Foster Home Providers

From: Safety, Oversight and Quality Unit

Topic: Extreme Heat Advisory – Tips and Resources

During times of high heat and dry conditions, there is the potential for power outages or power being shut off to minimize fire risks and people may experience heat related illness. Should the extremely hot weather lead to power outages, Oregonian's may find themselves without air conditioning, refrigeration, and other needs that depend upon electricity.

ODHS is aware and ready to provide support during this time to assure the safety of residents in SOQ licensed facilities. Below are some reminders and resources available to during extreme heat.

Tips for staying cool:

- Keep blinds closed
- Close off unused parts of the home
- Do not keep any unnecessary electrical items plugged in
- Stay inside during hottest times
- Hydrate! Ensure liquids are plentiful and offered regularly to residents

Please make sure you are prepared for potential power outages by checking the following:

- Access to a backup generator
- · Access to food that doesn't require cooking
- Contact information for Local Public Health Authority (LPHA)
- Identify partner providers in other areas that can help or provide temporary sanctuary
- An evacuation plan that includes where you will relocate should the need arise

APD means Aging and People with Physical Disabilities. APD adult foster homes are licensed to care for adults who are older and adults with physical disabilities.

Additional Resources:

- 211 is an emergency hotline that acts a resource for connection to community services in your area. <u>211 list of Cooling Centers</u>
- Local Public Health Authority contact information
- Tips for Preventing Heat-Related Illness
- OHA Preparedness information, including fact sheets in multiple languages
- Local and tribal emergency managers
- Refer to OHA Resources for Crisis and Emergency Risk Communication
- Know the warning signs of extreme heat exposure <u>OHA Extreme Heat</u>
 Fact Sheet
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) regarding Extreme Heat can be found at: https://www.cdc.gov/disasters/extremeheat/index.html

Should you experience a power outage and need assistance, please contact your local public health authority.

Oregon Department of Human Services website

If you have any questions, please email APD.AFHTeam@odhsoha.oregon.gov

