

## Adult Foster Home Provider Alert

Policy updates, rule clarifications and announcements

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**Date:** Oct. 25, 2024  
**To:** APD Adult Foster Home Providers  
**From:** Safety, Oversight and Quality Unit  
**Topic:** Licensee Bi-Monthly Call Q&A

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**Questions and follow-up from our October Licensee Bi-monthly call.**

**I have question regarding bed rails specifically full bed rails for a resident with seizure disorders. I have not seen anything addressing this safety issue for these types of residents.**

It may be that a bed rail for a resident with seizures is not limiting however there are still risks involved that require careful assessment. As a provider you will want to ensure they are not at risk for harming themselves should they have a seizure while in bed.

**I am concerned about the incident that occurred in Washington County regarding the FBI arrest and allegation for "indentured servitude". Many of us have caregivers from other countries and have raised concern about his. This was widely shared in the news. Did I miss ODHS making a formal statement about this? The providers are concerned about retaliation from licensing.**

ODHS has not made a formal statement because this is in the hands of the FBI. There is no reason for anyone to believe or assume that hiring caregivers from other countries is being done in bad faith. As a licensee your responsibility is to ensure all caregiver paperwork is in place and that you are following Oregon employment laws.

**Can you assist with contact and communication between providers, CM's and Licensors? I've had a large number of staff and providers state they do not get responses via email or phone; can something be mentioned on what more could be done?**

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

This concern has been communicated to those that manage case managers.

**What happens if we have incidents happen and are unable to reach anyone? Do we get penalized even if we tried to get ahold of both case managers and licensors?**

If you are making attempts at contact and not reaching anyone, please be sure you are tracking your efforts. It is through this documentation that you can show you have made efforts and not heard back from someone.

**Secondary exits for multiple level AFH, do i need to have the collapsible ladder in all bedrooms?**

Appendix R is the guiding principle for fire and life safety in adult foster homes and it states the following: Permanently attached ladders, rope and chain ladders, and other devices shall not be used as a substitute for an emergency escape or rescue.

**Link:** <https://up.codes/viewer/oregon/or-fire-code-2022/chapter/R/adult-foster-homes#R>

**Can we have more CE trainings from the county via ZOOM, I found difficult to attend in person. When doing via internet it is easier to attend. I would also be easier to attend in the afternoon between 2 and 4 p.m. Can we also have some trainings in the first half of the year?**

Counties can hold trainings in a manner that meets their schedule and staff needs. We at SOQ also aim to host more online trainings for providers statewide.

**Can the orientations be done via ZOOM?**

It is possible to hold orientations over ZOOM however this is not the best option for all involved. There is nothing that can replace the benefit of meeting in-person and getting to know one another.

**If you have any additional questions, please email [apd.afhteam@odhs.oregon.gov](mailto:apd.afhteam@odhs.oregon.gov)**