

Memorandum

To: Mental Health Adult Foster Home Providers

From: Connie Rush, Mental Health Licensing & Certification Manager

Date: October 1, 2024

Subject: Rate and Wage Study Comment Period

Providers and the public will be invited to comment on preliminary findings and recommendations from the comprehensive APD-ODDS Rate and Wage Study of providers. The comment period will begin on Oct. 7, 2024, and will extend through Oct. 28, 2024.

The study surveyed providers that serve individuals who receive services through programs within the Oregon Department of Human Services (ODHS) and the Oregon Health Authority (OHA). Those three programs are the ODHS Office of Aging and People with Disabilities (APD), the ODHS Office of Developmental Disabilities Services (ODDS) and OHA Behavioral Health.

ODHS and OHA contracted with Burns & Associates, part of Health Management Associates (HMA-Burns), to conduct the study. The study was required by a budget note in <u>Senate Bill 5506</u>, which passed during the 2023 Legislative Session. The report timeline that was set in the bill was revised to increase participation in the process. The report will be published in December 2024.

Information collected through the study is essential to ensuring that Oregon has a viable long-term care system and that people who are served by ODHS and OHA programs have quality provider options in their communities.

Providers were surveyed from January to March 2024. The study also includes feedback from ODHS and OHA community partners as well as advocates.

More details on the opportunity to comment will be available in coming days. Please contact Regan Sheeley at Regan.Sheeley@odhs.oregon.gov if you have questions.