**NOW & LATER UPDATE: FINGERPRINTING MINORS FOR AFC & CFC PROVIDERS**

What you need to know now:
As of Monday, June 19, 2018, minors (17 and under) will NOT have to be fingerprinted; in the majority of the cases.

What you need to know later:
In August 2018, if any individual, minors included, have lived outside of Minnesota for any duration in the last five years, a background study, including fingerprints, WILL BE REQUIRED.

**SUICIDE PREVENTION TEXT SERVICES**

As of April 1, Crisis Text Line is offering text-based suicide prevention services across Minnesota. People who text MN to 741741 will be connected with a counselor who will help defuse the crisis and connect the texter to local resources. Crisis Text Line is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

**ANNUAL HOUSING SUPPORT AGREEMENTS DUE FOR AFC PROVIDERS**

Each year, the Minnesota Department of Human Services (DHS) issues an updated Housing Support (formerly Group Residential Housing or GRH) Agreement that reviews current provider and service standards, along with other requirements for receiving Housing Support payments. This agreement coincides with the Housing Support rate increase to $904.00 per month starting July 1, 2018. Washington County adult family foster care providers that receive Housing Support payments on behalf of eligible individuals in foster care should have received a packet of documents, including the Housing Support Agreement, that need to be signed and returned to Washington County Community Services by June 15, 2018.

**WELCOME SHAWNA CAREY - OUR NEW ADULT FOSTER CARE LICENSOR**

Hello! My name is Shawna Carey and I am the new adult foster care licensor with Washington County. I received my Bachelor of Arts in Psychology from the University of Northwestern – St. Paul and my Masters in Social Work from the joint St. Catherine’s University and University of St. Thomas program. I have enjoyed working with Washington County for four years as a case manager in home and community based services. Prior to this time, I worked with Ramsey County in a similar role. I also have a background working with individuals with disabilities in a corporate residential setting. I’m looking forward to this new season of my career and will enjoy meeting you.


NEW REQUIREMENT FOR TWO PARENT CHILD PROVIDER HOUSEHOLDS

The Department of Human Services has made counties aware of a new requirement that will affect two parent households. This change will be required and must be done at the time of relicensing.

As of May 2018, an individual in the home who has or may have the responsibility as a parent in the family MUST be on the application and not considered only a household member. This includes any of the following:

1. Married individuals or individuals who have domestic partners – both must be on the license.
2. An existing license holder who is married or has a domestic partner that is currently not on the license – must be added at the time of relicensing.
3. If a new partner is moving into the home and will have a parenting role – they must be on the license. If the individual moves out of the home, they need to be removed from the license.

Please alert your licensor if this applies to your home. Licensors will need to complete a home study assessment on any individual being added to the license. This involves 2-4 additional licensing visits to complete interviews.

CRIB REQUIREMENTS

Anyone who is caring for an infant, must follow these crib requirements:

- All Pack ‘n Plays and cribs must be manufactured on **July 1, 2011 or later**. Anything older than this, will not be accepted. If purchasing a new crib to meet standards, ask the retailer if the crib complies with 16 CFR 1219 (the new standard for full-size cribs).
- Each crib or Pack ‘n Play needs the proper sized, firm mattress with a tightly fitted sheet on it. There should be less than the width of two fingers between the mattress and the side to prevent suffocation.
- Bumpers are not to be used.
- Only a pacifier is allowed to be left with the infant; no toys, pillows, or blankets.
- Infants are not to be swaddled at any age unless birth parents and case managers have given permission and a licensing form is signed and returned.
- If the crib has an appropriate manufacturer date, then drop down sides are allowed to be used.
- Handmade cribs are not allowed, it must have been purchased within the appropriate manufacturing date of July 1, 2011 or later.
- Infants less than one year old must be placed on their backs.

For additional information and frequently asked questions, please visit: [www.cpsc.gov](http://www.cpsc.gov).

WISHES FOR YOUTH IN FOSTER CARE

Adoption is Love is a program whose mission is to provide experiences, opportunities, and necessities for Minnesota foster children. This organization grants wishes for any eligible child in the foster care system. Eligibility requirements are as follows:

- Child must be schoolage (kindergarten–12th grade).
- Maximum grant amount is $300.
- Wishes must fall within one of the following categories: music (musical instruments, musical enrichment, etc.); arts (camps and experiences); academic enrichment; sports (bikes, camps, equipment to join teams, etc.); experiences (special events, concerts, sporting events, etc.); daily essentials.

All wish requests must be made by a social worker. Please contact your licensor or the child’s case manager if you would like to submit a wish request. If the wish has a specific deadline, requests must be submitted by a social worker 30 days prior to the deadline to allow for processing time.
**Free Breakfast and Lunch for Children**

This summer, Stillwater Area Public Schools will be offering free breakfast and lunch to area children (ages 2-18), regardless of need, thanks to a special program provided by federal funding. Families will not be asked to fill out any paperwork and no names will be taken – kids just need to show up to eat! Meals include both hot and cold entrees and will be served on a first come/first served basis. Staff will do their best to have food for all children who attend. Shoes and shirt will be required.

For the safety of all children, the district requires that a responsible adult bring the children to the cafeteria, stay with them for supervision, and escort them back out of the school building when they are finished eating.

The summer meal schedule is as follows:

- **Lily Lake Elementary**
  - **Weekdays:** June 6 – August 17
  - **Breakfast:** 8:15-8:45 a.m.
  - **Lunch:** 11:15 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

- **Andersen Elementary**
  - **Monday-Thursday, July 16 – August 2**
  - **Breakfast:** 8:30-9:00 a.m.
  - **Lunch:** 11:15 a.m.-12:15 p.m.

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**Summer Activities to Keep Your Children Active and Excited**

These are just a couple of ideas for your summer as you look to fill the days with fun and adventure. Remember to look at our local community’s website for details in and around your home towns all throughout Washington County and remember, above all, relax and enjoy another beautiful Washington County, Minnesota summer.

- **No Kid Hungry Events:** Free activities and food for kids in South Washington County.
  - **Mondays:** 5:00-7:00 p.m. in Woodbury:
    - Shawnee Park: June 18; July 9 and 23; August 6 and 20
    - Royal Oaks Elementary: June 25; July 16 and 30; August 13
  - **Tuesdays:** 4:00-6:00 p.m. in Newport:
    - Newport Lutheran Church: June 19 and 26; July 10, 17, 24, and 31; August 7, 14, and 21
  - **Wednesdays:** 5:00-7:00 p.m. in St. Paul Park:
    - Pullman Elementary: June 20; July 11 and 25; August 8 and 22
    - St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Church: June 27; July 18; August 1 and 15
  - **Thursdays:** 4:00-6:00 p.m. in Cottage Grove:
    - Park Grove Library: June 21; July 12 and 26; August 9 and 23
    - Armstrong Elementary: June 28; July 19; August 2 and 16

- **Summer Tuesdays:** Food, live music, and movies in the park in Stillwater. July 10 – August 21.

- **Washington County Libraries - Story Time:** Each Monday and Thursday. Eight different locations in our county. [www.washcolib.org](http://www.washcolib.org)

- **Washington County Libraries - Summer reading program:** [www.washcolib.org/409/Kids-Summer-Reading](http://www.washcolib.org/409/Kids-Summer-Reading)

- **Washington County Parks:** Campfire topic, bird watching topic, fishing, and kayaking. Annual vehicle permits are $30. [www.co.washington.mn.us/492/Parks](http://www.co.washington.mn.us/492/Parks)


- **Woodbury Lakes Puppet Wagon:** [www.woodburylakes.com/event/woodbury-puppet-wagon/2145486350](http://www.woodburylakes.com/event/woodbury-puppet-wagon/2145486350)

- **YMCA Twin Cities:** Free summer membership for high schools.
  - [www.ymcamn.org/getsummer](http://www.ymcamn.org/getsummer)

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**Welcome New Child Providers:**

- **March 2018**
  - Andrea and William Bolin, Scandia (Kin)
  - Janice and Dennis Wenker, Woodbury (Kin)

- **April 2018**
  - Christine and Darrin Olson, Hugo (Kin)

- **May 2018**
  - Alison Canty, Woodbury (Kin)
  - Thomas Klein, Stillwater (Kin)
  - Kelly Larsen, Stillwater (Kin)
  - Crystin Voxland & Peter Monson, Cottage Grove (Non-Kin)

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  - [www.ymcamn.org/getsummer](http://www.ymcamn.org/getsummer)

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**Welcome New Adult Providers:**

- **November 2017**
  - Margaret Foley, Woodbury

- **February 2018**
  - Elibelle Jardio, Stillwater

- **June 2018**
  - Malissa Costanzo & Kelvin McInnis, Forest Lake

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**Farewell to Closed Adult Providers**

Thank you to the following closed providers for their service to adult foster care in Washington County.

- **March 2018**
  - Karol Krier, Forest Lake
  - Licensed 23 years.

- **April 2018**
  - Dustin Frazier, Scandia
  - Licensed 10 years.
Adult Foster Care Providers Needed!

When life gets difficult... can you help? As a Washington County Adult Foster Care provider, you can make a difference in the lives of adults with a mental health diagnosis who are unable to live independently. Many choose to live in a family setting and simply need the support and stability of foster care to manage the demands of everyday life.

Who needs care?
• Over 18 years old
• Individuals with a mental health diagnosis
• Need a safe, caring environment
• May be involved in programs during the day such as school, work, or organized day program
• May stay with you for a long time, but most are short-term

What is adult foster care?
Licensed individuals or families provide adult foster care in their own home. The adults in care need a safe and supportive environment in which to thrive and learn independent living skills.

Please pass the word on so we can keep adults in local foster homes.

OUR NEXT ADULT FOSTER CARE INFORMATIONAL MEETING:
Mon., August 6
6:00-8:00 p.m.
Government Center
14949 62nd St. N.
Stillwater

For more information call 651-430-8307.

AFC PROVIDERS - WHEN TO CONTACT YOUR LICENSOR

We know for some of you the idea of contacting your licensor is like being sent to the principal’s office when you were a kid, dreaded. But no matter how dreaded it is, you must still do it when certain events happen.

Q: What events are these?
A: So glad you asked, mystery person. The adult foster care rule has a list of events which you must report to your licensor. For example, you must contact a licensor within 5 calendar days for a change in the regular household membership.

Q: What does regular household membership mean? I don’t charge a membership fee or anything.
A: Hahaha. That is not the kind of membership we mean. It means the people who have lived in the house for at least 30 consecutive days. It would NOT include Aunt Mabel from out of town coming to stay a few nights. It would include your daughter moving in to stay for several months.

Q: What if I am not sure whether someone will be staying a full month. Should I call? And how do you know my Aunt Mabel?
A: You should call if you are not sure. It is never wrong to call. Overreporting is better than not reporting. I don’t know your Aunt Mabel. I just used the name as an example.

Q: I don’t think my aunt wants to be used as an example.
A: I didn’t even know you had an Aunt Mabel. Can we just stay focused on the reporting requirements?

Q: You brought her up first. How soon do I have to make that report about the people moving in or out of my home?
A: 5 days.

Q: What other events do I have to report?
A: You must report changes in the caregiver’s employment status. This means you must let us know when you hire or fire a caregiver including family members within 5 days.

Q: Not sure why you would think I would hire someone to be my family member? Anything else I need to report?
A: I didn’t say you would hire someone to be your...Oh, never mind. You need to report a fire that causes damage to the home within 24 hours.

Q: What kind of damage? You don’t want to know if I burn the pot roast.
A: Well, we don’t need to know if the toaster burned the bread but we do need to know if the toaster burned the counter.

Q: Oh good because I always burn the pot roast - it is my Aunt Mabel’s recipe. What if the fire happens on the weekend when you are not working? I only have 24 hours to contact you, right? Do I have to wait until Monday?
A: You can just leave a voicemail or send an email on the weekend. If you think you need to talk to someone in person, you can call the afterhours and holiday emergency social services number listed on your Emergency Numbers card which is the bright orange card we make you put by the phone.
REPORTING TO LOCAL AGENCY

AFC Providers MUST call their licensor:
- Within 5 calendar days of any change in the regular membership of the household or caregiver's employment status;
- Within 24 hours after the occurrence of a fire that causes damage to the residence or requires the services of a fire department;
- Within 24 hours of the onset of any changes or repairs to the residence that require a building permit;
- Immediately after the occurrence of any serious injury or death of a resident. "Serious injury" means an injury that requires treatment by a physician or other medical provider;
- Within 24 hours of a change in health status of a caregiver that could affect their ability to provide care.
- Within 24 hours of the transfer or voluntary discharge of a resident.
- Immediately after the occurrence of any serious injury or death of a resident.

Q: Oh yes, I know that card. Does it have to be that annoying color? Traffic cone orange is just not my favorite color ever since the accident.
A: No, it does not need to be that color. It just needs to be easily seen by your phone.

Q: When else do I have to call you?
A: You have 24 hours to call when you make changes or repairs to the home which require a building permit.

Q: What about if a client gets injured?
A: Yes, you have 24 hours to call when a client has a serious injury which requires treatment by a physician or other medical provider.

Q: That it?
A: You must also call within 24 hours when there is a change in the health status of a caregiver that could affect their ability to provide care. So, if you break your leg, or have surgery, or have a heart attack, or stroke, or cancer, or pulmonary embolism, or kidney failure, or knee replacement, or blindness, or major burns, or lung disease, or liver disease, or ...

Q: Okay I get it.
A: You have 24 hours to report if anyone in the home has a communicable disease.

Q: Like a cold? That seems silly.
A: No, not a cold! Communicable diseases like influenza, hepatitis, tuberculosis, HIV, and Ebola have to be reported.

Q: Ebola! Who has Ebola?
A: (I am so regretting this discussion.) Calm down. No one has Ebola!

Q: Okay, I just got a little scared there for a second. What about if I discharge a client? I have to let you know at least 30 days before, right?
A: Yes, 30 days before you discharge a resident. You do have to give waiver residents 60 days notice. There is a requirement to notify your licensor within 7 days of a voluntary discharge which is when the person decides to move.

Q: Do you have this in a chart or something I can put up so I know when to call you?
A: Yes! SEE BELOW!

Q: By the way, who are you?
A: Just call me Mabel.

Q: Say, I have an Aunt Mabel.
A: Yes, I know.
Foster Care Recognition Evening

On May 17, the Washington County Community Services Licensing Unit hosted the annual Foster Care Recognition Event at the Lake Elmo Event Center. This year, Washington County licensed 48 new adult and child providers. The event was attended by 39 adult foster care providers, 26 child foster care providers, and 43 staff. Delicious hors d’oeuvres and desserts provided nourishment throughout the evening as attendees socialized with each other, listened to recognition speeches, and were awarded door prizes donated from community businesses.

Chris Sorensen, Community Services Director, and Sarah Amundson, Child and Family Services Division Manager, were in attendance to congratulate providers. Becky Motzko, Licensing Unit Supervisor, emceed the evening and offered words of thanks and appreciation for the dedication of our providers and the impact it has on the lives of vulnerable adults and children. She, along with Commissioners Karwoski, Kriesel, and Miron, honored newly licensed providers and presented special recognition awards to providers celebrating milestone years of service.

The following providers were recognized for:

10 years of service:
• Karly and Pete LePage (Child)
• Marion and Steve Potyondy (Child)
• Amy and Richard Reeves (Child)
• Sohair Youssef and Mounir Marzouk (Adult)

25 years of service:
• Barb Miller (Adult)

40 years of service:
• Scott and Karen Elliot (Child)

15 years of service:
• Roger Eliasen (Adult)

We hope the evening offered an opportunity for attendees to connect with other providers and enjoy a brief respite from the challenging work you do on a daily basis. The Washington County Licensing Unit sincerely appreciates the care you provide for vulnerable children and adults!
WASHINGTON COUNTY

All trainings will be held at the Washington County Government Center in Stillwater unless otherwise noted. To register for trainings contact Tammie Belland at 651-430-8307 or tamara.belland@co.washington.mn.us. All trainings are free to Washington County Foster Care Providers unless otherwise noted.

*Reimbursement Reminder: Foster parents can seek up to $100 training reimbursement per calendar year per household.

*Training Reminder: 12 hours of training is required yearly. One hour needs to be mental health related.

CARS (Children and Restraint Systems) Training

This training is required when caring for kids 8 and younger. Limited participants: No walk-ins. Anyone arriving more than 15 minutes late will need to attend another session.

Date/Time: Thurs., August 23 • 6:00-9:00 p.m.
Trainer: Washington Co. Public Health Staff

COMMUNITY TRAININGS

WEBINAR: Emotional Regulation and Relaxation Techniques for Parents and Children

Children and teens who have experienced early childhood abuse, neglect, placement changes or other traumas often have difficulty regulating their emotions and behaviors because they lack the skills to self-soothe and resist co-regulation (calming) attempts from their parents. In this webinar, C.A.S.E. Clinical Supervisor and Adoption Competent Therapist Penny Zimmerman will introduce Relaxation, Mindfulness, Sensory Activities, and Massage that parents can immediately put into use at home to improve their confidence, strengthen the parent-child relationship, and facilitate co-regulation and regulation for their child(ren).

Date/Time: Tues., June 26 • Noon-1:30 p.m.
Location: Online, live webinar
Cost: $18
Registration: www.mnadopt.org/eventregister/?event_ID=1569

ADHD Update: The Latest Research and the Newest Interventions

This training will provide an update on the most important new research about ADHD, including diagnostic trends, risk factors, and new findings about medications. It will also delve into emerging interventions and treatments that audience members can begin using immediately.

Date/Time: Fri., June 29 • 9:00 a.m.-Noon
Location: St. Mary's Greek Orthodox Church, Minneapolis
Cost: $89
Registration: www.macmh.org/event-page/workshops-trainings/summer-2018-training-series/#5

First Aid - Pediatric

This course will help you recognize and deal with emergencies, injuries, and sudden illnesses in your child care setting. Class covers basic first aid principles and practices, injury prevention, and safety information.

Date/Time: Sat., July 14 • 9:00 a.m.-Noon
Location: Apple Valley Community Center, Apple Valley
Cost: $45
Registration: Register by July 7 at: www.developtoolmn.org/app/EventDetail.aspx?EVID=276705

CPR - Infant and Child

Designed for child care providers, teachers, parents, and others who care for children, this course teaches participants how to recognize and care for breathing and cardiac emergencies in infants and children.

Date/Time: Sat., July 14 • 12:30-3:30 p.m.
Location: Apple Valley Community Center, Apple Valley
Cost: $45
Registration: Register by July 7 at: www.developtoolmn.org/app/EventDetail.aspx?EVID=276704

Building Bonds and Resilience Through Stories and Nurturing Touch

This workshop provides you with tools that you can go home and use right away to build bonds and resilience in your children through stories and nurturing touch. The activities you will learn will help enhance self-regulation skills and create memories, develop boundaries, and set limits with humor. The activities are hands on and designed to bring love and laughter into the home while reducing stress and increasing sleep. Tips and strategies will be given for working with children who have an aversion or negative history with touch.

Date/Time: Wed., August 1 • 6:30-8:30 p.m.
Location: MN ADOPT, St. Paul
Cost: $20/individual; $35/parenting couple
Registration: www.mnadopt.org/eventregister/?event_ID=1571

Traumatized Children and Adolescents: From Surviving to Thriving

This session will provide information about experiences that may create trauma responses in children and adolescents, the resulting neurological and biochemical changes, and their impact on behavior and learning. Communication skills and patterns among trauma survivors are highlighted, as they are foundational for healthy social and emotional development. Fortunately, resilience resides in the human propensity for connection, and relationships create a context for healing. The presenter will discuss strategies for creating strong and healthy communication patterns that are grounded in research.

Continued on page 8
and tested through her extensive experiences with traumatized children and adolescents. She will also draw upon her own childhood trauma experiences in order to provide guidance for parents and professionals who are also survivors.

Date/Time: Tues., August 7 • 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.
Location: Beth El Synagogue, Saint Louis Park
Cost: $179 ($152.15 if you register by July 7)
Registration: www.macmh.org/event-page/workshops-trainings/summer-2018-training-series/#5

I Wonder: Using Curiosity to Understand and Address Children’s Behavior

What if caregivers used their curiosity to resolve challenging behaviors? Behavior is a form of communication that caregivers can learn to interpret when time is taken to process the meaning. During this workshop, learn how to use reflective thinking to understand how development, trauma, and attachment influence behavior. Attendees will explore a toolbox of strategies for preventing and addressing behavior in infants, toddlers, and preschoolers.

Date/Time: Thurs., August 9 • 5:00-7:00 p.m.
Location: Minnesota Association for Children’s Mental Health, St. Paul
Cost: $59 ($50.15 if you register by July 9)

FOSTER PARENT SUPPORT GROUP

Washington County Licensing provides group sessions aimed at educating, shaping, and supporting each other as we all navigate the foster care experience together. Please consider joining us for our sessions to experience the support and community of Washington County Foster Care. If you have any questions, feel free to contact Lisa Hofmann at 651-430-4167.

Dates: Last Tuesday of every month (except August and December)
Times: Even months: 6:00-7:30 p.m.  Birch Conference Room
       Odd months: 10:00-11:30 a.m.  Ash Conference Room
Location: Woodbury City Hall, Woodbury

ADULT FOSTER CARE PROVIDER TRAINING GROUP

Trainings are held at the Government Center in Stillwater unless noted differently.

Topic: Person-Centered Intervention Techniques

We don’t work with paper, we work with people. This is core to our success as not only organizations, but also for the people we serve. Starting with healthy, positive relationships, David brings an approach and methodology that is both understandable and applicable the minute you leave the building! Emphasis is on both of the individuals in the equation; both the employee, and the individual served. With a goal of positive, not perfect, this presentation focuses on keeping individuals from crisis through a series of interactions that are person-centered. As you listen, you will also begin to see how these techniques can easily apply to other parts of your life, as well!

Date: Tues., July 24 • 6:00-8:30 p.m.

Topic: VA Mandated Reporter

All adult foster care providers are required to complete Vulnerable Adult training annually. Topics include: VA Act definitions, process of reporting and investigating, record keeping, required training, and a question and answer session.

Date: Tues., Sept. 25 • 6:00-9:00 p.m. (*note: 3 hour session)