

From: ComSvsAFCLicensing
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 11:42 AM
Subject: Washington County Updates - Adult Foster Care Providers
Importance: High

Dear Adult Foster Care Providers,

The Licensing Unit wanted to send you an update and also wanted to take some time to thank you for the work you continue to do for the members of this community, even in difficult times. Thank you. Usually this time of year, in May, we are celebrating the work you do with an appreciation banquet. Due to COVID-19, social distancing protocol, and the overall safety of this community, we are unable to do an organized banquet this year. This news comes with a heavy heart as we enjoy showing our appreciation in this way. We are working on alternative ways to show our appreciation, stay tuned!

Licensing in General

- In these unprecedented times, the rules and statutes regarding foster care licensing are still applicable. However, we understand that there are areas where the health and safety of others requires deviation from the rules. Some waivers to the rules/statutes have been given and will be listed below. In addition, priority is to follow the guidelines given by the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) and the CDC. Please make yourselves aware of the guidelines given on the following web pages. Any situation where you need further clarification, please contact your licensor. We also may direct you to the Minnesota Department of Health for advice. The web pages are:
 - www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/communities.html#licensed
 - www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html
- If you or a resident in your home test positive for COVID-19, please let your licensor know. We will work with you to determine how to proceed.
 - You should ultimately follow the guidance of the Minnesota Department of Health.
- We have been given guidance that we are allowed to complete relicensing and alternate year visits by video conferencing. Your licensor will contact you on doing visits in this way. If you do not have access to video capabilities, please let your licensing social worker know and we will work together.
- Although fingerprint background studies are currently suspended at this time, we are still able to conduct a background study. If someone new moves into your home, please contact your licensor so a background study can be conducted.
- In Governor Walz's Emergency Executive Order 20-14, he suspended evictions to allow household members to remain sheltered during the peacetime emergency. This includes adult foster care settings – residents may not be involuntarily discharged from the program during this time. You can contact your 245D licensor if you have further questions.

Communication

- Contracts for Housing Support will be going out soon, if not already. You will get communication from David Thao from Washington County. You will have to print, sign, and return. *Contracts for housing support (GRH) cannot be renewed without the new contract signed.*

A great place to live, work and play...today and tomorrow

Service Center Cottage Grove
13000 Ravine Parkway
Cottage Grove, MN 55016
Phone: 651-430-4159
Fax: 651-430-4193

Service Center Forest Lake
19955 Forest Road N
Forest Lake, MN 55025
Phone: 651-275-7260
Fax: 651-275-7263

Government Center
14949 62nd St N P.O. Box 30
Stillwater, MN 55082-0030
Phone: 651-430-6455
Fax: 651-430-6605

Service Center Woodbury
2150 Radio Drive
Woodbury, MN 55125
651-275-8650
Fax: 651-275-8682

Resources

- Questions regarding your 245D license or creative ways to continue to serve your residents can be called into the 245D Help Desk at 651-431-6624.
- The Department of Human Services has a website for licensing and COVID-19: <https://mn.gov/dhs/partners-and-providers/licensing/licensing-covid>.
- NAMI has some great resources for people regarding mental health. You can also sign up to be on their newsletter at <https://namimn.org>.

Adult Foster Care Licensing

Washington County Community Services

14949 62nd St. N., Stillwater, MN 55082

651-430-830

www.co.washington.mn.us/adultfostercarelicensing