

Adult Care Home Program Newsletter

December 2022

Letter from the ACHP Program Manager

Dear Providers,

The ACHP's office is moving!

I am excited to let you all know the ACHP Office is relocating to the Multnomah County East Building. Our new address will be 600 NE 8th Street, Gresham, OR 97030. The move will happen in January of 2023. Starting with the new year, the ACHP will no longer be housed in downtown Portland at the Five Oak Building.

With the majority of the Adult Care Homes in East Multnomah County, the move will make our office location more convenient for Providers and Caregivers to submit applications and background checks and will keep our licensing team closer to your homes for support. As an added benefit, the Multnomah County East Building has free parking available and is close to Tri-Met bus and MAX lines.

In addition to the new ACHP office, the East Building houses the Multnomah County East County Health Center and Multnomah County's Long Term Services and Supports (LTSS) East County team. As you likely know, LTSS supports the case management of many of the Adult Care Home residents.

We are excited for the opportunities this relocation will bring with it. We will be sending further information as the move approaches, but for now, we anticipate the program phone and fax numbers will remain the same.

Wishing you all a Happy and Healthy Holiday Season and a positive New Year in 2023!

ACHP Program Manager
Steven Esser

Just Ask

Question: Does Multnomah County still offer infection control supplies for ACHs?

Answer: Yes. Operators can request bulk hand sanitizer, disposable face coverings, and COVID home test kits by making a [Community Organization Resources Request](https://www.multco.us/em/community-organization-resources-request), <https://www.multco.us/em/community-organization-resources-request>. Click the link for access to the request form, for technical assistance, and for further information about available resources.

Question: On November 15th, Governor Brown declared RSV a public health emergency for children. Does Oregon's RSV surge affect Adult Care Homes?

Answer: Respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) is a contagious virus that can mimic cold symptoms. While usually mild in healthy adults, RSV can severely affect the lungs and respiratory airways of older adults or adults with underlying conditions. Adults with conditions such as Diabetes, Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD), Asthma, or Congestive Heart Failure (CHF) or any adults over the age of 65 are particularly at risk for severe symptoms if RSV is contracted. Because of the prevalence of the disease in the community right now, ACHs should take extra precautions related to infection control. This includes practicing good hand hygiene and taking care to keep shared surfaces clean and disinfected. At-risk adults should consider wearing masks in public spaces. RSV symptoms may include: Fever, Cough, Sore Throat, Runny Nose, Congestion, Headache, and Tiredness. Those with signs of difficulty breathing or dehydration should be seen by a medical professional. Infections are typically contagious for 3-8 days, however, people with weakened immune systems can be contagious for as long as 4 weeks, even after they stop showing symptoms.

Winter Weather Reminder

Winter weather is right around the corner. While we all hope for easy mild winters, we know that's not always what occurs. Adult care homes are required to be prepared for a variety of emergency situations, including those that can be brought on by winter storms. Now is a great time to self-audit emergency supplies; make sure you have enough for staff, residents, and other occupants; and assure that supplies are unexpired, in good condition, and cover any specialty needs.

What do MCARs require? Adult care homes are required to stock sufficient provisions, sanitation, and food supplies, that would allow staff and residents to shelter in place for a minimum of three days under an array of adverse conditions. These conditions include:

- Extended utility outage
- No running water
- Inability to replace food supplies
- Caregivers unable to report as scheduled

How do I decide what to keep on hand? The [ACHP Emergency Preparedness Plan](#) form has a list of the shelter in place supplies that are required for ACHs. A re-evaluation of this plan is due annually. The form can be found here:

<https://multco-web7-psh-files-usw2.s3-us-west-2.amazonaws.com/s3fs-public/Emergency%20Preparedness%20Plan%20Template%2011.6.2017.pdf>. Additionally, online resources can help ACHs identify other emergency preparedness items that might be helpful. Check out some of the links provided by [Public Alerts' Get Ready](#) webpage: <https://www.publicalerts.org/get-ready>

What else should I do? Communicate with your backup operator and clarify how they will interact with the home during an emergency.

Get Notified! You can also sign up to receive a text, call, or email when emergency alerts in our area are issued so you are not caught unaware: <https://www.multco.us/em/do-you-want-receive-emergency-notifications>

Selling My Adult Care Home

What are some of the important things I need to know when considering the sale of my adult care home?

MCAR 023-041-200 does a good job of describing all of the requirements related to this topic. Check there for a comprehensive list of requirements. Below are some other questions and answers that might help.

Is it the operator or the home that is technically licensed? Actually, it is both!

Because there are requirements related to the operator's knowledge and training AND the physical characteristics of the home, the adult care home license is tied to both a person and an address/physical structure.

What do I need to do if I want to sell a property that is named on an adult care home license? Operators are required to inform the ACHP immediately when a home is listed for sale **and** when an offer is made to purchase the home. Remember that selling an adult care home **business** must occur in a separate transaction from the sale of the home and property. AND the license to operate a home is not transferable, even if the business is sold. When selling a home, Operators are responsible for communicating the non-transferrable condition of the license in all written communications to both real estate agents and to potential buyers (e.g. listing, advertising, etc.).

What happens to residents when a home is sold? Operators must give at least 30 days written notice to residents, their representatives, and to the ACHP before the proposed sale, lease, or transfer of the property on which the adult care home is located. During the sale, the licensed Operator must continue to operate the home in accordance with all MCARs until a new license related to the adult care home is issued or all the residents have moved.

Training and Support

All sessions offered via webinar.

To register: call 503-988-3000 or email advsd.adult.carehomeprogram@multco.us. Specify the training name & date and include your full name, email address, & phone number

Provider Meeting - Monthly provider meetings cover a variety of topics and offer one CEU to those with paid registrations.

Date: 12/21/22

Time: 1:00-3:00 pm (sign in no later than 1:05)

Cost: \$10

Emergency Preparedness Planning -

Required for Operators, Resident Managers, & Shift Managers.

Date: Thursday, 12/22/22

Times: 9:00 am - 12:30 pm (Sign-on 8:50 am)

Cost: \$30

Orientation - Required for Operator, Resident Manager, and Shift Manager applicants.

Date: Tuesday, 12/06/22

Times: 9:00 am - 3:00 pm (Sign-on 8:50 am)

Cost: \$55

Record Keeping Part A, Screening and Care Planning -

Required for APD and MHA licensed Operators, Resident Managers, and Shift Managers.

Date: Thursday, 12/15/22

Times: 9:00 am - noon (Sign-on 8:50 am)

Cost: \$30

Record Keeping Part B, Medication Mgmt -

Required for Operators, Resident Managers, and Shift Managers within the first year of licensure or role approval.

Dates: Thurs, 12/08/22 & Tues, 12/20/22

Times: 9:00 am - 12:30 pm (Sign-on 8:50 am)

Cost: \$30

Honoring Diversity - Required for Operators, Resident Managers, and Shift Managers within the first year of licensure or role approval.

Date: Tuesday, 12/13/22

Times: 9:00 am - noon (Sign-on 8:50 am)

Cost: \$30

Receiving Gifts from Residents

This is a good time of year for a reminder that Caregivers, Providers, their families, and other household members cannot accept gifts from Residents or their families. Often as holidays approach, Residents and their families want to acknowledge and show their appreciation for the care they have received from ACH staff members. They may ask if they can buy you a gift, give a holiday bonus, or provide something for the house. Because of the nature of the relationship between the Resident and ACH staff members, particularly because Residents rely on ACH staff for care, the Multnomah County Administrative rules prohibit Operators, ACH staff members, any member of the Operator's or staff member's family, or other household occupants from accepting gifts from Residents, including any form of inheritance and entering into any type of loan from the Resident or Resident's family. If a Resident would like to find a way to participate in a gift-giving custom, please note that activities like making cards or crafts, baking sweets, or bringing in food to share and show appreciation are permitted. Remember to speak with your Caregivers about being mindful of this regulation all year round and especially during the holiday season. For more information, please review MCAR 023-080-155.

COVID-19

Masks: Masks continue to be required in ACHP licensed adult care homes. Staff who live outside the home and any visitors must wear masks when inside the ACH.

Reporting: If a staff member or Resident in your home is exposed to or exhibits symptoms of COVID-19, please seek COVID testing. Positive COVID-19 test results should be reported to the ACHP within one business day (advsd.adult.carehomeprogram@multco.us / 503-988-3000) along with your name, contact info, and phone number. Someone from the program will call you as soon as possible with questions and further instructions.



Department of County Human Services

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Adult Care Home Program
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