ODP Announcement

Outreach to Providers Willing to Establish Homes for Individuals who are Deaf

ODP Communication Number: Memo 014-16

The mission of the Office of Developmental Programs is to support Pennsylvanians with developmental disabilities to achieve greater independence, choice and opportunity in their lives.

AUDIENCE: ODP Residential Habilitation Service providers

PURPOSE: The purpose of this announcement is to identify willing and qualified providers to establish community and shared living homes for individuals with an intellectual disability who are deaf, and to collect information about concerns providers may have about establishing such homes.

DISCUSSION: As described in ODP Announcement 058-15, ODP Seeks Providers to Establish Homes for Individuals who are Deaf, The Harry M. settlement agreement requires ODP to recruit and identify providers for individuals who are deaf and enrolled in the Consolidated Waiver for the purposes of offering such individuals the opportunity to reside with other individuals who are deaf.

Since the above announcement’s release, ODP has received very few responses from providers who are willing to offer individuals who are deaf the opportunity to reside with other individuals who are deaf. We are therefore reissuing our request for providers to establish community and shared living homes for deaf individuals. Providers are reminded that enhanced residential rates related to additional staff costs associated with providing staff fluent in Sign Language are available should they elect to establish such homes.

Additionally, ODP seeks to learn what concerns providers may have about establishing community and shared living homes for deaf individuals. If you have considered establishing such homes and subsequently decided not to do so, ODP would like to know why. We are therefore requesting that you share your concerns about establishing homes for individuals.
who are deaf with ODP. Your participation in this process is voluntary and will be kept confidential.

**CONTACT:**
Providers who wish to establish homes as described in this announcement or providers who have concerns about establishing homes for individuals who are deaf should contact Maureen Veety, ODP Deaf Services Coordinator, at ra-odpdeafservices@pa.gov, or by telephone at (570) 614-1318.