Adult Family Homes

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Background

- 1995 HB 1908
 - Required a reduction in NH medicaid beds by 1600 over 2 years
- The number of older adults in nursing homes decreased from 17,500 (1990) to 12,300 (2005).
- The use of AFHs increased by 68%.

What is an adult family home?

- Residential facility
- Up to 6 residents
- Provide room & board plus:
 - laundry
 - necessary supervision
 - necessary help with:
 - activities of daily living
 - personal care
 - social services.

Who can open an adult family home?

Anyone who:

- Understands English
- Is at least 21 years of age
- Has no criminal background
- Undergoes 26 hours of training

State requirements vary

- Washington State: up to 6 adults
- Wisconsin: 3-4 adults
- Idaho: 2 or fewer adults (can apply for up to 4)
- Florida: up to 5 adults

In Washington State

- \$50 license fee per year
- Provider must reside in the home or hire a resident manager to reside in the home.
- Live in not required if:
 - 24 hour staffing AND
 - Someone present to make decisions

Specialty Adult Family Homes

- Can be designated as a specialty home in one or more of the following three categories:
 - (1) Developmental disability,
 - (2) Mental illness, and/or
 - (3) Dementia.

Resident Assessment

- Written assessment before resident admitted
- Updated every year, with significant changes, or at resident's or legal representatives request
- Assessment includes preliminary service plan:
 - (1) A complete description of the client's specific problems and needs;
 - (2) A description of needs for which the client chooses not to accept services;
 - (3) Identification of client goals and preferences; and
 - (4) A description of how the client's needs can be met.
- The assessment and preliminary service plan create the foundation for the negotiated care plan.

Resident Assessment contents

- Recent medical history
- Current prescribed medications & allergies/contraindications
- Medical diagnosis
- Behaviors or symptoms that require special care
- Cognitive status current level of functioning. This must include an evaluation of disorientation, memory impairment, and impaired judgment
- History of depression and anxiety
- History of mental illness, if applicable
- Social, physical, and emotional strengths and needs
- Functional abilities (ADLs)
- Preferences and choices regarding daily life that are important to the person
- Preferences for activities
- A preliminary service plan.

Negotiated Care Plans

- A written plan developed between the provider and the resident, or the resident's representative, if the resident has a representative.
- Developed within 30 days of admission
- Reviewed and updates every year, with significant changes, or at the request of resident

Negotiated Care Plan contents

- The care and services to be provided
- Who will provide the care and services
- When and how the care and services will be provided
- The resident's activities preferences and how those preferences will be accommodated
- Other preferences / choices regarding issues important to the resident and what efforts will be made to accommodate them
- If needed, a plan to follow in case of a foreseeable crisis due to a resident's assessed need, such as, but not limited to, how to access emergency mental health services
- If needed, a plan to reduce tension, agitation and problem behaviors
- If needed, a plan to respond to residents' special needs
- If needed, the identification of any communication barriers of the resident, including how behaviors and nonverbal gestures may be used as a means for communication.

Medications

- Provider must ensure all prescribed and OTC meds kept in locked storage
- Stored in original containers with original labels unless medication organizers used
- Resident has right to refuse medications
- Negotiated care plan must address how residents will get medications when not in home

Medication administration

- Resident assessment must address functional level related to ability to manage medications
- Determined to be:
 - Independent with self-administration
 - Self-administration with assistance
 - Medication administration required
 - Combination of above 3

Independent with self-administration

- Self administer medications
- Can keep meds locked in own
- Not required to keep daily medication log
- provider must maintain a current list of prescribed and OTC medications
 - Medication name, dosage, frequency, and name and number of the prescriber.
- Changes in meds documented in negotiated care plan

Self-administration with assistance

- Resident needs assistance to safely selfadminister medications
- The resident must be able to put the prescribed or OTC medication into their own mouth or apply or instill the medications
- The resident must be aware that they are receiving a prescribed or OTC medication, but does not necessarily need to be able to state the name of the medication, intended effects or side effects

Medication organizers

Who can fill?

RN, LPN, resident, or family member

Other requirements

- Medications must have been already dispensed by a pharmacist and are being removed from an original labeled container
- Prescribed and OTC medications must be readily identifiable in medication organizer

Medication organizers – label requirements

- Resident name
- Medication name
- Dosage and frequency
- Name and phone number of prescriber must be available when medication organizer taken out of home.
- Person filling medication organizer responsible for updating label when changes in medications.

Medication log

Contents:

- All prescribed and OTC meds
- Dose, frequency, time to be taken
- Initial of person assisting or administering
- Initial and note if medication refused
- Changes must be recorded with date of change

AFHs – funding

- Almost 50% of residents are state funded.
- In Washington State, money follows the resident.

AFHs – referrals

- Approximately 40% come from private homes
- Approximately 40% come from nursing homes
- The rest from a variety of other places:
 - Retirement apartments
 - Hospitals
 - Another facility
 - unknown

AFHs – resident health status

Incontinent of bladder	48%	28%
Incontinent of bowel	25%	2%
Needs assistance with medications	71%	51%
Needs 24 hour supervision	73%	45%
Suffers from moderate to severe confusion	29%	14%
Displays behavioral problems	27%	8%

AFH

ALF

Curtis MP et al. J Geron Social Work 2000; 34(1): 25-41.

Summary - AFHs

- State regulations vary
- Increasingly popular as alternative to NHs
- In Washington state, AFHs can provide care to as many as 6 residents
- State reimbursement rates lowest for AFHs
- Many residents need assistance with ADLs, medications, and suffer from behavioral problems.