

ODP Announcement

Public Comment Opportunity: Guidance for the Development of Human Rights Teams and Human Rights Committees

ODP Communication Number 081-18

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: All Interested Parties

PURPOSE: To announce the availability of the draft *Guidance for the Development of Human Rights Teams and Human Rights Committees* bulletin for public comment.

DISCUSSION: In response to the renewal of the Consolidated and Person/Family Directed Support (P/FDS) Waivers and the creation of the Community Living Waiver, as well as the requirements written in the Administrative Entity (AE) Operating Agreement, and in anticipation of the release of the 55 Pa. Code Chapter 6100 regulations, the Office of Developmental Programs (ODP) is sharing draft requirements and best practice recommendations related to human rights and restrictive procedures. The guidance outlined in the bulletin reflects regulatory and contractual expectations for AEs and providers offering services to people in both licensed and unlicensed settings, and represents ODP's mission, vision and values around how we support people. Because regulatory and other requirements establish the minimum requirements for compliance, the details contained in the bulletin are intended to support stakeholders in taking a consistent approach to ensure people's health, safety, and rights.

Please note: All of the Human Rights Team guidelines contained in the bulletin apply to providers that render services through the Adult Autism Waiver (AAW). The functions of the Human Rights Committees for participants enrolled in the AAW, however, are fulfilled through ODP's Bureau of Autism Services (BAS) instead of AEs.

Written or electronic comments will be accepted. Electronic comments may be submitted to RA-odpcomment@pa.gov. Written comments should be sent to Julie Mochon, Policy Director, Office of Developmental Programs, Room 510, Health and Welfare Building, 625 Forster Street, Harrisburg, PA 17120.

Comments must be received within 30 calendar days after the date of publication of this announcement. That date is October 05, 2018 at 11:59 PM.