GUIDELINES FOR USE OF A PERSONAL EMERGENCY RESPONSE SYSTEM (PERS) UNIT FOR ADULTS WITH DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES (2009)

PLAN DEVELOPERS AND DEPARTMENT STAFF

A PERS unit can be recommended:

- If a participant is without paid services for a portion of a day and will be spending time alone and the participant’s Person Centered Planning (PCP) team has determined the participant has potential safety needs.

- If it is determined that other communication devices are not workable for the participant for emergency or crisis needs.

Examples of situations when a PERS unit would be beneficial to a participant:

- If a participant sleeps through most of the night but might have a need which may result in an emergency (medical issues, etc).
- If a participant has a seizure disorder that is not completely controlled by medication and the participant would need assistance in the community or at their home at a time when staff is not scheduled to be available.

Training of PERS unit usage:

- The PERS unit supplier would do the initial training for the participant and their Residential Habilitation provider.

Plan review:

- The PERS unit recommendation should initially come from the participant and/or respondent at the time when the participant’s eligibility assessment is occurring at the Idaho Center for Disability Evaluation (ICDE).
- If the participant’s PCP team feels this would be a beneficial service to the participant, they would need to select a PERS unit vendor and add the service to the authorization page and Supports and Service page of the ISP.
- Bureau of Developmental Disability Services Care Managers should review the plan and additional assessment documentation to determine if the PERS unit will meet the participant’s assessed needs and promote their health and safety while staying within budget.