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INTRODUCTION

The Department of Health & Welfare values certified family home (CFH) care providers. You devote yourselves to vulnerable adult residents who are dependent on you for their protection, security, and assistance with basic life skills. The services you provide allow these individuals to live in a normal family-style environment, instead of more expensive and restrictive institutional care settings.

The CFH program is a win-win-win. It’s a win for the citizens of Idaho; their tax dollars spent to pay for care in the CFH setting go farther than the institutional alternatives. It’s a win for you as the care provider, as you earn an income from home providing supervision and personal assistance. Most importantly, it’s a win for the resident, who is able to remain within the community and be included in day-to-day family life.

You have a partner in the Department to guide you in operating a CFH. The Department’s Division of Licensing & Certification employs certifying agents in each region of the state. Certifying agents are your resource when it comes to obtaining and maintaining certification. Once the home is certified, certifying agents provide regulatory oversight. When you have questions regarding CFH program standards, contact your regional certifying agent for consulting services. Technical assistance from the certifying agent can upgrade the quality of care in your home and assure compliance with CFH program requirements.

Another resource the Department supplies is this manual. It is designed to provide you with the information and framework you need to comply with regulations, give high quality care, and assure a safe living environment. In the manual, you will find copies of the rules and statutes that govern certified family homes, recommended policies and procedures for your home, records you will need to recertify your home each year, forms to help you properly admit a new resident into your home, and ongoing resident records.

Lastly, the Department has an online presence dedicated to CFH providers. Keep up with health and safety topics and the latest program developments by liking us on Facebook (Idaho Certified Family Homes) and following us on Twitter (@CFHIdaho). The program also maintains a webpage (www.cfh.dhw.idaho.gov) where CFH providers may find announcements, alerts, applications, a digital copy of this provider manual, quality assurance tools, program forms, certifying agent contact information, and much, much more.

Please take full advantage of the supports the Department offers to you. Your success as a CFH provider is important. As you strive with us to implement the vision and mission of the CFH program, vulnerable adults living in your home will receive the care they need to lead the safest and healthiest lives possible with dignity and fulfillment.

Sincerely,

STEVEN L. MILLWARD
Program Manager
MISSION
To promote and protect the health and safety of Idahoans receiving services in certified family homes.

VISION
Adults who are unable to reside on their own living with their primary care providers in safe, family-styled homes where they receive high quality services, their rights are honored, and they are included in the community.