



Adult Family Home Council

OF WASHINGTON STATE

# 2024 AFH Council Legislative Priorities

## MCO Funding



- Fund the 1915(i)-state plan agreement reached by the AFH Council and the Office of Financial Management (OFM) for a tiered rate structure for behavioral health personal care.
- Assure funding is allocated to providers providing supportive supervision and oversight (SSO) for managed care Medicaid residents.

## Protecting the Home-Like Environment in Adult Family Homes:



- Advocate for the development of rules and standards that recognize the residential family-like nature of adult family homes.
- Amend RCW 70.128.140 to include private and public water and health districts in the recognition of adult family homes as single-family homes.
- Ensure HB 1859, which seeks to extend Federal skilled nursing home requirements to the intimate, home-like settings of an adult family homes does not develop rules and standards that create an overly restrictive barrier to the development of adult family homes in Washington state.

## Improving Resident Non-Payment and Assessment Accuracy:



- Increase access for Medicaid funded residents and improve transitions between hospitals and post-acute care settings.
- Ensure requirements of care such as two-person assist, awake staff at night, behavioral add-on, or capital add-on are included and adequately funded in the 25-27 collectively bargained agreement.
- Establish a pilot program aimed at assisting AFH providers recover unpaid participation fees from residents.
- Explore the feasibility of the state collecting participation fees from clients and distributing them to various providers.

## Transparency and Collaboration – Addressing Liability Insurance in AFHs:



- Modify RCW 70.128.280 to require the consumer-oriented website to include statements of deficiencies related to any enforcement actions by the department for the previous three years.
- Provide funding to the commissioner to coordinate with the AFH Council to convene an adult family home liability insurance workgroup.

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## Workforce Development:



- Improve working conditions, wages, and benefits for workers in AFHs.
- Revise AFH Council scope of bargaining under RCW 41.56.029 to specify the inclusion of all long-term care workers employed in an Adult Family Home under RCW 70.128 as it relates to health and welfare benefits, and professional development and training.

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## Cooling Systems in Adult Family Homes:



- Ensure with Washington's recent extreme weather conditions there are no barriers for AFHs to meet temperature requirements as established in law under RCW 70.128.130 and WAC 388-76-10775.
- Fund a grant program to expand the use of cooling systems in adult family homes that are serving Medicaid funded residents.

**Thank you for your continued support of our state's nationally recognized long-term care system!**



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