

**State of Vermont**

Department of Disabilities, Aging and Independent Living  
Adult Services Division  
HC 2 South, 280 State Drive  
Waterbury, VT 05671-2070  
Phone: 802-241-0294  
Fax: 802-241-0385  
[www.dail.vermont.gov](http://www.dail.vermont.gov)

*Agency of Human Services***MEMORANDUM**

**TO: Authorized Agencies for Adult Family Care**

**FROM: Angela Smith-Dieng, Adult Services Division Director**

**DATE: December 11, 2020**

**RE: Temporary Changes for Emergency Home Placements During COVID-19**

The Department of Disabilities, Aging and Independent Living (DAIL) is committed to the safety of individuals living in shared living homes. The [DAIL Housing Safety and Accessibility Inspection Process](#) states that for individuals receiving services through Adult Family Care and the Brain Injury program, a housing safety inspection, and an accessibility inspection (as needed based on the individual receiving services) must be completed and all identified deficiencies corrected, prior to the individual receiving services moving into a shared living home (unless the home has been licensed or inspected by The Division of Fire Safety, the VT Department of Labor and Industry, the VT State housing Authority, Section 8 Housing or a local housing authority).

An Emergency Home Placement can be requested, to allow a participant to move into a home prior to the completion of the inspection process, in situations of “unexpected and imminent homelessness of an individual that would put their health and safety in jeopardy due to no fault of their own”.

DAIL is aware that COVID-19 has made the process for completing the accessibility assessment difficult for some individuals leaving nursing homes and hospital settings. To ensure individuals can move into the community without additional delay, during the COVID-19 State of Emergency DAIL is temporarily expanding the definition of an Emergency Placement to read:

*An Emergency Home Placement may be requested when there is unexpected and imminent homelessness of an individual that would put their health and safety in jeopardy due to no fault of their own.*

*During the COVID-19 emergency, an Emergency Home Placement may also be requested when an accessibility assessment is needed but the follow up by the physical/occupational therapist cannot be conducted until the individual receiving services has moved into the home.*



In the event an Emergency Home Placement is needed to allow for the completion of the accessibility assessment, the agency would be expected to follow all steps required for an Emergency Placement including the pre-inspection checklist. Agencies would be required to fully complete the inspection process within 30 days of the individual's move into the home.

For questions or clarification regarding Emergency Home Placement due to COVID related issues for Adult Services Division program participants, please contact Lisa Edson Neveu, Quality Assurance & Provider Relations Program Director for Adult Services at [Lisa.Neveu@vermont.gov](mailto:Lisa.Neveu@vermont.gov).

Thank you for all you do to support Vermonters to receive services and supports in Adult Family Care.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Angela Smith-Dieng".

**Angela Smith-Dieng**

Director, Adult Services Division

Department of Disabilities, Aging and Independent Living

(802)-989-0454 / [angela.smith-dieng@vermont.gov](mailto:angela.smith-dieng@vermont.gov)