

POLICY: R-X-1

DEPARTMENT: Personal Support Services

CATEGORY: Infection Prevention and Safe Food Handling

EFFECTIVE DATE: April 2015

SUPERSEDES REVISION DATED: N/A

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Policy & Procedure Manual

INFECTION PREVENTION AND CONTROL PROGRAM R-X-1

POLICY

OPTIONS northwest is committed to the prevention, recognition, evaluation and control of health hazards in the organization. The goal of the Infection Prevention and Control Program is to minimize the spread of infectious diseases.

All policies in the Infection Prevention and Safe Food Handling Section of the Residential Policy and Procedure Manual will be reviewed annually and revised as required.

PURPOSE OF THE PROGRAM:

- 1. To prevent and control the spread of infectious diseases.
- 2. To promote awareness of the principles of infection prevention and control amongst support staff, students, people supported, and visitors.
- 3. To provide policies and procedures related to Infection Prevention.
- 4. To ensure best practices are routinely implemented to prevent and control the spread of infectious diseases.

PROCEDURE

1. Infectious Diseases and Mode of Transmission

Current information related to infectious diseases and mode of transmission is available to people we support and staff in Infectious Diseases and Mode of Transmission Policy R-X-2.

2. Infection Prevention and Control Practices

OPTIONS northwest has implemented policies and procedures related to effective prevention and control activities specific to our organization. Procedures include application of existing regulations, standards and guidelines of professional organizations and government agencies. These are based on current evidence-based infection prevention and control strategies.



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3. Monitoring and Surveillance

OPTIONS northwest will monitor the Infection Prevention and Control Program to determine the effectiveness of prevention and control strategies currently in place. Annually all group living locations will be inspected by the Inspection Department of the Thunder Bay District Health Unit to ensure current and best practices are followed.

4. Education

OPTIONS northwest will continually evaluate the need for education and training of people supported and employees related to infection prevention and control.

5. Research and Consultation

OPTIONS northwest will ensure relevant research findings related to infection prevention and control practices will be incorporated into our agency's current practices. This may include consulting with appropriate personnel from various departments of the Thunder Bay District Health Unit for the purpose of securing appropriate information and reference material.

RECOMMENDED BY: Director, Personal Support Services APPENDICES: 0

OPERATIONAL ACCOUNTABILITY: Administration, Personal Support Services Administration, Personal Support Services, Human Resources

ORIGINAL POLICY DATE: April 2015

AUTHORIZED BY: Director, Personal Support Services