

POLICY: R-VII-5

**DEPARTMENT:** Personal Support Services

**CATEGORY:** Environmental

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** May 2016

**SUPERSEDES REVISION DATED:** August 2013

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Policy & Procedure Manual

## ENVIRONMENTAL/PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS FOR RESIDENTIAL SETTINGS – R-VII-5

## **Policy**

Every Group Home operated by OPTIONS northwest will at the very least, achieve the physical/environmental requirements outlined in the Services and Supports to Promote the Social Inclusion of Persons with Developmental Disabilities Act (SIPDDA), 2008.

## **Purpose**

- 1. To ensure all group homes maintain a consistent standard of physical and environmental requirements.
- 2. To comply with regulations 299/10.

## Procedure

- 1. All homes operated by OPTIONS northwest shall:
  - Have an outside recreation area, maintained in a safe and sanitary condition.
  - Have an inside recreation area, maintained in a safe and sanitary condition.
  - Have all exits in the residence kept clear at all times
  - Have appliances and furnishings in the residence that are clean and in good condition and working order
  - Have hazardous household products stored and used safely within the residence
  - Have an internal minimum temperature of 20° Celsius that is maintained at all times.
  - Have a maximum internal temperature of 26° Celsius. Please refer to the Hot Weather Precautions Policy (R-III-6)
  - Have the thermostat on the hot water tank set at 49° Celsius (120°F) and monitored daily as per the Nightly Hot Water Check Policy (R-VII-4)
  - Have sleeping accommodations in rooms that are located on the ground floor or the floor immediately above it.
  - Ensure that all sleeping areas are attractive, clean, and personalized to the individual's taste and is provided with
    - a) a bed of appropriate size
    - b) a suitable mattress
    - c) bedding appropriate to weather
    - d) appropriate individual furniture and clothing storage (in the bedroom where possible)



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e) sufficient space to keep their personal possessions and to pursue hobbies and interests without unwanted or unwarranted intrusion from others

- f) an exterior window and window coverings
- Provide nourishing meals and/or special diets for each individual at regular intervals, prepared by or under the supervision of a competent person/staff.
- Provide adequate and sanitary supplies of drinking water.

**RECOMMENDED BY:** Director, Personal Support Services

APPENDICES: 0

**OPERATIONAL ACCOUNTABILITY:** Administration, Personal Support Services Administration, Personal Support Services

**ORIGINAL POLICY DATE:** April 2009

**AUTHORIZED BY:** Executive Director

SIGNATURE: