

CODE OF ETHICS

The purpose of this employee code of ethics is to ensure ethical standards of care by requiring workers to deliver services professionally, respectfully, and legally. During the provision of authorized services the worker shall prohibit unprofessional, disrespectful or illegal behavior, including, but not limited to:

- 1) Consuming the consumer's food and/or drink, or using the consumers' personal property without the consumer's consent.
- 2) Bringing children, pets, friends, relatives, or anyone else to the consumer's place of residence.
- 3) Taking the consumer to the provider's place of residence.
- 4) Consuming alcohol, medicine, drugs, or other chemical substances not in accordance with the legal, valid, prescribed use and/or in any way that impairs the provider in the delivery of services to the consumer.
- 5) Discussing religion or politics with the consumer and others in the care setting.
- 6) Discussing personal issues with the consumer and others in the care setting.
- 7) Accepting, obtaining or attempting to obtain money, or anything of value, including gifts or tips from the consumer, household members and family members of the consumer.
- 8) Engaging with the consumer in sexual conduct or in conduct that may reasonably be interpreted as sexual in nature, regardless of whether or not the contact is consensual.
- 9) Leaving the home for a purpose not related to the provision of services without notifying the agency supervisor, the consumer's emergency contact person, any identified caregiver, and/or the consumer's case manager, or, for consumer-directed service providers, leaving the home without the consent and/or knowledge of the consumer.
- 10) Engaging in activities that may distract the provider from service delivery, including, but not limited to:
 - a) Watching television or playing computer or video games;
 - b) Making or receiving personal telephone calls;
 - c) Engaging in non-care related socialization with individuals other than the consumer;
 - d) Providing care to individuals other than the consumer;
 - e) Smoking without the consent of the consumer; and,
 - f) Sleeping.

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(continued)

- 11) Engaging in behavior that causes or may cause physical, verbal, mental or emotional distress or abuse to the consumer.
- 12) Engaging in behavior that may reasonably be interpreted as inappropriate involvement in the consumer's personal relationships.
- 13) Being designated to make decisions for the consumer in any capacity involving a declaration for mental health treatment, power of attorney, durable power of attorney, or guardianship.
- 14) Selling or purchasing from the consumer products or personal items. The only exception to this prohibition occurs when the consumer is a family member and the provider is not delivering services.
- 15) Engaging in behavior that constitutes a conflict of interest or takes advantage of or manipulates ODA-certified services resulting in an unintended advantage for personal gain that has detrimental results for the consumer, the consumer's family or caregivers, or another provider.

These expectations are spelled out in Rule #173-39-02(B)(17) of the Ohio Administrative Code.

As a professional practitioner working in a program funded by the Ohio Department of Aging, I have reviewed and understand this code of ethics and agree to provide service professionally, respectfully, legally, and in compliance with the above ethical standards.

Print Name: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____