

Sherry Stellar
17755 SW 131st Ave
Tigard, Or 97224
503-740-9927
s.stellar@comcast.net

To introduce myself, my name is Sherry Stellar. I have worked as an RN for over twenty years in various hospitals and have been in the Adult Foster Care Home industry for five. AFCH's provide a high level of care. It's rarely custodial. We administer to:

Diabetics with QID insulin and blood sugars

Daily wound care to mersa infected patients

Bariatric care to bedridden MS patient

Continuous oxygen administration adjusting to O2 sats 24 hours a day

Infinite patience with those stricken with dementia

Medicating people who have 45 meds that need to be given 8 times a day

Hospice care

I currently have all of the above in my home where the resident to caregiver ratio is 5 to 2.

If the pay rate for Medicaid residents continues to languish Adult Foster Care Providers will take fewer and fewer of them, consequently they will have to go to Nursing Homes where the State will pay approximately double what we are paid for doing the same care. Currently I can only afford to take one Medicaid resident in each home that I have, BUT the need is tremendous. At least three times a

week I get a call from a family asking if I will take their parent or grandparent who are on Medicaid and I have to say no.

The Solution: Increase the pay scale to Adult Foster Care Homes by \$500.00 more a month and I truly believe there will be no problem in finding AFCH's to accept these people. (More would be better but that would help a lot.) Keep in mind the State of Oregon pays an average of \$6500.00 to a Nursing Home to care for the same Resident they pay Adult Foster Care Homes to care for, for only \$2000.00.

ALSO: Another point I would like to bring up. Today the State of Oregon only allows us to care for five residents but if that could be increased to six residents it would enable us to afford to take more Medicaid residents per home.

Washington, California and Arizona all allow six.

The Usual Adult Foster Care Home Monthly Budget:

Housepayment or rent	\$2,500 to 3,000
Electricity	\$450 (6-12 loads of laundry a day.)
NW Natural	\$250- 450 (must keep at 72degrees)
Food/ cleaning	\$1,800
Caregiver wages	\$4,200 (can't do this all by yourself, though some do)
Phone/ Internet/	
Garbage/phone/ Cable	\$450.00 (Good TV is a must)

Miscellaneous pharmaceuticals \$250.00 (incontinent and cleaning supplies)

Liability/hazard Insurance \$450.00

Total monthly bills for AFCH – \$10,450.00 (cheap end) No profit!

Current average Medicaid payment for five residents is \$10,000.00.

The dilemma is that this doesn't include other needs vital to life like clothing or cars, insurance or gas. Now, since the operating budget is what it is why would anyone accept a Medicaid resident into their home?