

**DEPARTMENT OF DISABILITIES, AGING AND INDEPENDENT LIVING**

Developmental Disabilities Services

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To: All Interested Parties

From: Camille George, Director  
Department of Disabilities, Aging and Independent Living (DAIL)

Date: 5/2/14

Subject: Rescinding the 2008 “Policy on Community Notification Procedures for Sex Offenders with Developmental Disabilities” and 2009 “Community Safety Procedures for Sex Offenders with Developmental Disabilities” DAIL/DDSD Procedures

In 2008 and 2009, the Developmental Disabilities Services Division (DDSD), then Division of Disabilities and Aging Services (DDAS), issued the Community Notification Procedures and Community Safety Procedures for Sex Offenders with Developmental Disabilities to the Designated and Specialized Service Agencies in the State of Vermont’s Developmental Services System. These procedures were intended to prompt agencies that support individuals with developmental disabilities and sex offending behaviors to do thoughtful risk analysis and adequate support services planning to address areas of risk to the public.

In October of 2013 the Revised DAIL/ DDSD *Protocols for Evaluating Less Restrictive Placements and Supports For People with Intellectual / Developmental Disabilities Who Pose a Risk to Public Safety* described the process for all people who receive public safety funding and/or are listed on the DDSD Public Safety Group list. This process includes development of an initial and advanced comprehensive behavioral support plan and/or community safety plan, requirements to submit information for the creation of a Public Safety Risk Assessment (PSRA), Annual Less Restrictive Evaluations conducted by the agencies, and regular behavioral support plan reviews by the DAIL/DDSD Quality Review Team.

These newer practices are believed to be more robust and exceed the goal of the previously issued community safety procedures. The Revised Protocols are more in line with the DS System’s current values regarding individualized supports, protecting person’s private health information, and best practices in sex offender supervision.

DAIL/DDSD hereby rescinds the 2008 Policy on Community Notification Procedures for Sex Offenders with Developmental Disabilities and the 2009 Community Safety Procedures for Sex Offenders with Developmental Disabilities. DAIL/DDSD requires that agencies and service providers adhere to the October 2013 Revised Protocols for Evaluating Less Restrictive Placements and Supports For People with Intellectual / Developmental Disabilities Who Pose a Risk to Public Safety.