

MEDICAL MARIJUANA

POLICY:

This community supports the client's right to use medical marijuana consistent with the provisions of Washington's Medical Marijuana statute, chapter 69.51A RCW, as approved and directed by his/her health care professional and under certain circumstances within this long term care setting

PROCEDURE:

1. A client who uses medical marijuana in this setting must :
 - a. **Be a "qualifying patient" under the provisions of RCW 69.51A. A "qualified patient" means a person who:**
 - i. Is a patient of a healthcare professional. "Health care professional," means a physician licensed under chapter 18.71 RCW, a physician assistant licensed under chapter 18.71A RCW, an osteopathic physician licensed under chapter 18.57 RCW, an osteopathic physicians' assistant licensed under chapter 18.57A RCW, a naturopath licensed under chapter 18.36A RCW, or an advanced registered nurse practitioner licensed under chapter 18.79 RCW; and
 - ii. Has been diagnosed by the health care professional as having a terminal or debilitating condition.
 - b. Provide valid, signed and dated documentation by a health care professional, licensed in Washington State, stating that the person has, in the healthcare **professional's opinion**, a terminal or debilitating condition that may benefit from the use of medical marijuana.
 - c. **The "qualifying patient's" copy of the valid documentation must be** retained by the individual, be easily accessible, and presented to facility staff and other appropriate authorities upon request.
 - d. **The "qualifying patient" will identify a "designated provider", not** affiliated with the long term care community, who will be responsible for **providing the medical marijuana to the "qualifying patient". There shall be** only one designated provider for each qualifying patient, and the designated provider cannot assist more than one qualifying patient.
 - e. The designated provider is responsible for bringing the medical marijuana to the qualifying patient and promptly removing the medical marijuana from the premises after client consumption.
 - i. Upon arriving at the building, the designated provider must sign in at the front desk, including name, date, and time of arrival.
 - ii. Just prior to leaving the building, the provider must sign out at the front desk, including name, date, and time of departure.

- iii. All medical marijuana consumed by the client must be in edible form only.
 - iv. At no time will marijuana be grown or stored on the premises.
- 2. Staff involvement in the provision of medical marijuana is limited to:
 - a. **Confirming receipt of the qualifying patient's valid documentation of the client's illness, disease, or ailment as a condition that may benefit from the use of medical marijuana; and**
 - b. **Confirming the healthcare professional's recommendation that the client's use of medical marijuana may ease symptoms associated with the illness, disease, or ailment.**
 - c. **Ensuring no other clients are impacted by this client's use of medical marijuana.**
- 3. Staff will not under any circumstances:
 - a. Assist the client in obtaining or using the medical marijuana;
 - b. Store the medical marijuana for the client;
 - c. Ensure the client is properly using the medical marijuana as instructed by his/her healthcare professional;
 - d. **Take and/or use the client's medical marijuana;**
 - e. **Serve as the client's designated provider of medical marijuana.**
- 4. If, at any time, the administrator and/or designee determine that the client is not honoring this policy and procedure as written and presented to him/her, consequences up to and including discharge may be considered in order to maintain **all clients' safety and wellbeing.**