## ADDRESSING MAJOR UNUSUAL INCIDENTS AND UNUSUAL INCIDENTS TO ENSURE HEALTH, WELFARE, AND CONTINUOUS QUALITY IMPROVEMENT

- (A) The Adams County Board of Developmental Disabilities shall follow Ohio Administrative Code (OAC) 5123:17-02 which establishes the requirements for addressing major unusual incidents and unusual incidents and implements a continuous quality improvement process in order to prevent or reduce the risk of harm to individuals.
- (B) The Agency accepts the responsibility to review and report all major unusual incidents and unusual incidents as required by OAC 5123:17-02. The MUI Coordination is achieved through a contract with Highland CBDD. A procedure shall be in place to specify processes.
- (C) The Agency will ensure that all reported major unusual incidents occurring in Adams County are investigated by an Investigative Agent that is certified by the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities (ODDD). The Agency contracts with the Southern Ohio Council of Governments (SOCOG) for an Investigative Agent and for other services to ensure health, welfare, and continuous quality improvement.
- (D) Any person providing services to an individual, county board staff and providers of services are required to report alleged, suspected, or actual occurrences of abuse or neglect to the statutory responsible agent.
- (E) As per section 5123.61 of the Ohio Revised Code, any person who makes these reports will be immune from any civil or criminal liability that might otherwise be incurred or imposed as a result of such action except for liability for perjury or unless the person has acted in bad faith or with malicious purpose.
- (F) Reports and investigations of alleged abuse or neglect and other MUI's will be kept confidential. These reports are not public records as defined in section 149.43 of the Ohio Revised Code. Records will be provided to parties authorized to receive them in accordance with sections 5123:613 and 5126.044 of the Ohio Revised Code, to any governmental entity authorized to investigate the circumstances of the alleged abuse or neglect, misappropriation, or exploitation and to any party to the extent that release of records is necessary for the health and welfare of an individual.
- (G) Failure to report alleged, suspected, or actual occurrences of abuse or neglect may be a Major Unusual Incident and may result in penalties under the law, and/or appropriated action as defined in personnel policy. Substantiated incidents of Failure to Report MUI's may result in the person's name being added to the "Abuser Registry" maintained by the ODDD.

Revised: October 14, 2020