



Tennessee Department of Human Services

Adult Day Services

Newsletter

Greetings from your partners at the Tennessee Department of Human Services, Adult Day Services Team!

Welcome to the April/May/June 2022 edition of the Adult Day Services (ADS) Quarterly Newsletter.

The newsletter will be a vehicle to share information on topics that support your day-to-day operations as a licensed ADS agency. If you have ideas about potential topics that would be helpful to cover in the newsletter, please send us your ideas. We also plan to feature an existing agency in the Program Spotlight section each issue. If you are willing to allow us to feature your agency, please reach out to us by email at: AdultDayServices.DHS@tn.gov

Our Adult Day Services Newsletters will also be posted on our website for your reference at: <https://www.tn.gov/humanservices/adults/adult-day-services.html>

Adult Day Services Rulemaking Hearings

The Adult Day Services rulemaking hearing has been set for May 17, 2022. The rules filing with specific locations and times can be found here: https://publications.tnsosfiles.com/rules_filings/03-20-22.pdf. Please note that there is a minor error in the location address for the Knoxville location. The street address on the notice is listed as "7175 Strawberry Planes Blvd." The correct street address is "7175 Strawberry Plains Pike".

Note that the public comment period for written comments will remain open for 10 days after the hearing. Written comments may be submitted to the AdultDayServices.DHS@tn.gov mailbox until close of business on Friday, May 27, 2022.

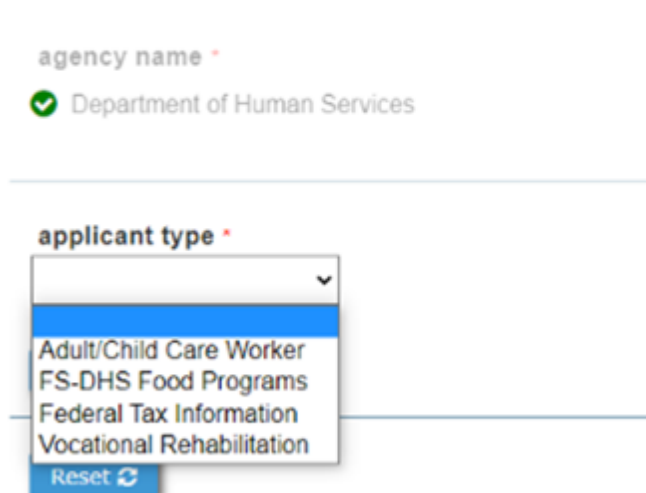
Criminal Background Checks

The effort is still under construction, but we are working to reorganize the ADS background check materials on the website to have all the applicable materials to support the process on the ADS webpage. Once completed, information about the overall process, transferring results, laws/rules, waiver/appeals, FAQ, and applicable forms will be on separate tabs. It is our hope that these changes will help clarify the requirements/process for conducting ADS criminal background checks and make the information needed to complete a background check easier and more accessible.

Also, please note that the fingerprint vendor, IdentoGo, updated the "applicant type" option in the registration system. When registering for fingerprints, ADS applicants will now need to select the first option noted in the dropdown below: *Adult/Child Care Worker*



Tennessee



Program Spotlight

In this segment we learn more about some of the ADS services provided throughout Tennessee.



ALPS Adult Day Services - Morristown/Greeneville
Phone: (423) 587-9149 (Morristown); (423) 525-5773 (Greeneville)
<https://www.alpsadulthoodservices.org/>

ALPS Adult Day Services' mission is to provide compassionate care, therapeutic activities, and professional support in a cozy, homelike setting.

ALPS has been serving Hamblen, Jefferson, Grainger, Hawkins, Greene, Cocke, and other surrounding counties from the Morristown location since 1986 and expanded their services by opening a second location in Greeneville in 2019. They have a combined capacity of 112 participants between the two sites and operate 7:30 AM – 5:30 PM Monday through Friday.

ALPS is a non-profit, state licensed comprehensive health program designed to meet the needs of adults with cognitive and/or physical impairments. Therapeutic activities are intended to assist individuals with structure and meaningful activities to improve or sustain their abilities in such areas as: ADL's, health status, movement, attention span, short- and long-term memory, nutritional intake and many other aspects needed to maintain a quality of life. The program provides a safe and structured therapeutic environment. The facilities are specifically designed to allow the maximum level of freedom while ensuring a safe and treatment-focused program.

The environment is specifically designed for individuals requiring space for wandering or other movement. Employees will accompany the client or be in close proximity for the necessary supervision to ensure safety

Daily activities and therapies are designed to stimulate, motivate, and/or retrain participants to maximize their functional capacity. A monthly calendar of activities and events is posted and sent to caregivers. The Activity Director, in conjunction with the Executive Director and/or Clinical Supervisor, plans daily activities for each month. Group and individual activities are provided.

Physical exercise, personal care, rest time, social interaction, orientation, reminiscing, language arts, arts & crafts, music, and meals/snacks/hydration are provided daily. Additional activities, such as pet therapy, horticultural therapy, special guests from the community, and art therapy, are provided throughout the month.

Services such as physical therapy, speech therapy, and occupational therapy are arranged via Home Health Services per physician's orders.

ALPS Adult Day Services establishes an individualized Plan of Care for each participant. This Plan of Care sets forth measurable goals and/or behaviorally stated objectives and is implemented within 30 days of the client's enrollment and updated every three (3) months.

Family conferences are scheduled, as deemed necessary, by ALPS employees or participant's family.

During the Family Conference issues or concerns are identified, and plans implemented to address these areas of concerns. Any issues outside of the ALPS domain are referred to the appropriate agency or resource, when available.

Health checks are completed daily or as often as needed to ensure the clients' medical well-being.

Community Perspective

"ALPS met us where we were. They were, for us, nothing less than Sherpas on a mountain trail we did not know. They kept our mother engaged and active as she slipped into the depths of this insidious disease...and we love them for that."

- M. and C. Brown

"Imagine your special-needs loved one in a nurturing environment where he/she receives a nutritious diet, awareness stimulation, appropriate exercise, professional nursing services, and loving care by trained professionals while still being able to remain with you at home. Is this a dream of the future? No, Morristown is blessed with just such a facility – ALPS!"

- J. Greene

Team Perspective

We asked the ALPS team to speak to the "Why" of what they do by answering this question: What is the most satisfying aspect of the services you provide?

"I realized how amazing this mission was as a board member, and after coming on as the director I truly understood. There is nothing more rewarding than you realize we are truly gaining. Once you realize this, you'll never work another day. ALPS is here to serve; with our Adult Day Program we concentrate on all the possibilities that lie ahead for our participants versus focusing on the disabilities they have been diagnosed with. We are dealing with the 'Here and Now' daily. Our Family Services and Social Impact Services, mission is solely in the support of the unpaid family caregivers. Providing education, community awareness, family counselling, respite for those who need adult day services, and referrals for those who do not. Also, planning events, setting up peer support groups and of course fundraising to pay for these initiatives. Join us and feel the enormous reward that we do by helping families be families again. Allowing spouses to be spouses again, versus being full time caregivers. All this takes is love and compassion while applying your God given talents toward something larger than yourself. Do you want to make a true social impact on your community? Join us. Support us. Watch the impact of your support effect the lives of those caregivers."

- Mahon Fritts, Chief Executive Officer



"I've worked here at ALPS for 24 years and I can truly say this is more than a job to me. ALPS is a special place. The standard of care as received by our participants and given by everyone who works here is the definition of what caring for other people should be! I'm proud to work for an organization that puts the quality of care above all else. We provide care for people with a wide range of physical and cognitive disabilities. Our program gives them more quality of life, the activities are fun, and they develop friendships. We strive to make each individual feel cared for, loved, and needed with a purpose in life! Love Grows Here!"

--Geraldine Miller, ALPS Program Director



National Adult Day Services Association Updates

The national association maintains a page dedicated to industry updates. You can access that information here: <https://www.nadsa.org/important-ads-updates/>



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