

SUNSHINE VILLAGE CLIENT HANDBOOK: Westover Maintenance Systems

WELCOME TO SUNSHINE VILLAGE! PLANNING FOR A GREAT DAY

This Handbook is intended to provide clients and their families and guardians with important information related to the organization and our Employment and Community Based Day Supports (CBDS) programs. We provide updates regularly – through a variety of mechanisms, including client meetings, emails to families/guardians, our private Facebook page and through our website - www.sunshine.us

MISSION STATEMENT (approved April 6, 2023): Sunshine Village delivers on a GREAT day for individuals with developmental disabilities and those on the autism spectrum by helping them to live and learn, work and earn and give and grow.

VISION STATEMENT (approved June 1, 2023): Sunshine Village maintains a clear vision to continue building upon its solid foundation as a premier provider of services and an employer of choice, within the greater Pioneer Valley, by identifying and leveraging the unique abilities of the individuals it supports and employs.

This multidimensional vision will be accomplished by continually (i) assessing, enhancing and offering innovative services, inclusive of day and community-based services and workforce development programs; (ii) providing a safe and nurturing environment that is welcoming and inclusive for all; (iii) assisting individuals to achieve independence to their greatest ability; (iv) investing in technology and infrastructure; and (v) investing in our workforce through a competitive and comprehensive total rewards plan and professional development program, while emphasizing wellness and valuing work-life balance.

ORGANIZATIONAL GOALS and STRATEGIES (approved June 1, 2023)

- Advance SSV as a “Premier Provider of Choice” by assessing, enhancing and offering innovative services that assist individuals to achieve greater independence.
- Ensure the financial stability of SSV with sound governance and strong leadership that strives for excellence while adhering to thoughtful policies, transparent practices, proactive planning and continuous improvement.
- Enhance service provision by investing in technology and infrastructure while ensuring that all environments are safe, welcoming and inclusive for all.
- Continue to be an “Employer of Choice” investing in our workforce through a competitive and comprehensive total rewards plan and professional development program, while emphasizing wellness and valuing work-life balance.

RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

CODE OF CONDUCT AND EXPECTATIONS: Sunshine Village has Codes of Conduct for many

stakeholder groups, including its Board of Directors and Employees. The Client Code of Conduct includes Expectations that serve as examples. The examples of expected conduct are not exhaustive and should not be construed as limiting those instances in which the suspension or discharge penalty may be imposed, nor limiting the Agency's right to suspend or discharge clients for offenses not contained in the listing of examples:

- **I will treat everyone with dignity and respect**
 - I will be kind to others.
 - I will deal peacefully with anger, insults and disagreements.
 - I will use appropriate language and manners.
 - I will not make threats.
 - I will not bully others.
 - I will not fight with others.
 - I will respect personal boundaries of others. This means no hugging, kissing, touching of private parts.
- **I will respect and value diversity**
 - I will respect the unique personalities and traits of others.
 - I will be considerate of the challenges others face.
 - I will not make rude and offensive remarks about someone's culture, color, gender, sexual orientation or disability.
- **I will improve awareness of my community and its resources**
 - I will participate in a variety of "Bringing the Community to Us" activities
 - I will empower myself by making informed choices and decisions
 - I will make responsible choices throughout the day.
- **I will view learning as a life-long process**
 - I will make goals and try new things.
- **I will help make environments healthy and safe**
 - I will inform others if I need to leave an area.
 - I will not leave the building without telling the support person.
 - I will respect the property of others.
 - I will use technology safely.
- **I will encourage teamwork and open communication**
 - I will work on projects with others.
 - I will help others or get help for others if needed.

UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS: A SUMMARY: As members of society, we are born free and equal in rights, dignity and all entitled to the same rights. Our rights cannot be challenged without due process. If our ability to make informed decisions is in question, we have the right to a public hearing regarding our rights and obligations. We have a responsibility to respect other people and to exercise our rights with due regard for the rights of other members of the community.

Dignity:

- We have the right to be treated with respect.
- We have the right to a nationality and the right to celebrate our culture.
- We have the right to worship.

Self-Determination:

- We have the right to choose.

- We have the right to know what information is written in our records and can view our records.
- We have the right to be independent and make our own informed decisions.
- We have the right to have our own thoughts and opinions and the right to change our minds.
- We have the right to have our own unique personality.

Communication:

- We have the right to communicate with others and to fully express ourselves.
- We have the right to send and receive letters.
- We have the right to communicate through telephones and computers.

Relationships:

- We have the right to develop friendships.
- We have the right to belong to any group we choose.
- We have the right to have intimate relationships with mutually consenting adults.
- We have the right to marry and have a family if we choose.

Privacy:

- We have the right to privacy.
- We have the right to privacy in our own home and personal space.
- We have the right to converse privately.
- We have the right to expect confidentiality regarding our personal information.
- We have the right to expect our photographs will not be publicized without our permission

Personal Safety:

- Everyone has the right to be safe.
- We have the right to be free from harm.
- We have the right to basic needs such as food, clothing, housing, medical care and social services.

Personal Property:

- We have the right to own property.
- We have the right to obtain, keep, use and dispose of personal possessions.

Education, Employment, and Compensation:

- We have the right to an education.
- We have the right to choose the type of work we do.
- We have the right to work in favorable conditions.
- We have the right to be paid for the work we do.
- We have the right to equal pay for equal work.
- We have the right to take a vacation from work.

Community Membership:

- We have the right to participate in the cultural life of the community.
- We have the right to participate in the government by exercising our right to vote.
- We have the right to belong to groups and clubs in the community.
- We have the right to recreation and leisure.

NON-DISCRIMINATION NOTICE: SSV complies with all applicable state and federal civil rights laws in the eligibility for and delivery of its services and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, ancestry, religious creed, sex, sexual orientation, disability, age,

gender identity or expression, genetic information, and/or veteran status. SSV does not exclude people or treat them differently on the basis of any and/or all of these protected categories.

WAITLIST NOTICE: Sunshine Village (SSV) provides services for adults (aged 18 and older) with developmental and intellectual disabilities. SSV provides services regardless of the level of disability, as long as there is adequate funding to ensure the safety of all clients and employees. If a client requires space, nursing staff, intensive clinical supports and/or staffing that is not readily available, the client will be placed on a waitlist until his/her needs can be safely met.

SUSPENSION / DISCHARGE NOTICE: Sunshine Village is committed to providing environments that are safe, welcoming and respectful for all of its clients, their families and employees. Clients and their families are expected to adhere to the agency's Client Code of Conduct and Expectations, as outlined in the SSV's Client Handbook, and failure to do so may result in either a suspension or discharge from service.

Sunshine Village will work to help clients and their families understand and comply with all agency policies and processes and work to assist clients to satisfactorily comply with all standards. If any client is unable, or unwilling, to comply with policies, rules, regulations and processes, SSV will undertake a series of corrective actions to educate and encourage clients to comply. How, and how often, Sunshine Village educates and encourages clients will be at the agency's discretion, dependent upon the severity and frequency of the actions or the consequences of the action(s.)

At any time, SSV may need to enforce a temporary suspension to undertake an internal investigation, allow a regulatory body to perform an investigation, or allow for time for the Individual Support Plan (ISP) team or a meeting with other stakeholders to convene. Decisions from any meeting will be communicated with all stakeholders, including the client and their guardian/family member(s.)

The applicability or the extent to which any of these corrective actions are utilized will depend upon the sole discretion of management as determined by the scope of the problem involved and the circumstances. Any misconduct or serious failures or inadequacies that create an unsafe environment for other clients or employees of SSV may be dealt with by immediate termination or discharge.

CONFLICT RESOLUTION: Sunshine Village offers a variety of ways for clients to communicate concerns and participate in remediation efforts.

Mediation: Clients experiencing difficulties/issues with another client or clients should discuss his/her concerns with the other individual(s.) Case Managers, Program Supervisors and Program Managers can assist with these conversations.

Grievance: Clients who believe that they have been treated unfairly by an employee or find an organizational policy or programmatic protocol unfair, can file an informal or a formal grievance through these internal and external sources:

- **INFORMAL:** Clients can talk with the Program Manager at any time about an incident or about a policy/protocol. Timeliness is a factor when investigating incidents – so clients

are encouraged to bring up concerns as soon as possible. The Program Manager will investigate and respond back in person within five working days.

- **FORMAL:** If you are not satisfied with the response from an informal grievance or if you consider the incident or issue more significant, you can talk with the Director of Day Services within five business days of the incident or about a policy/protocol. The Director will investigate and respond to you, in person or in writing, within five business days.
- If you continue to be dissatisfied, you can contact your DDS Service Coordinator or MassHealth representative.

In no way will filing an informal or formal grievance result in retaliation or barriers to service. In addition, if you feel more comfortable, you may request the support and assistance of a direct support person, a Human Rights Officer and/or a member of the Positive Behavior Supports (PBS) Advisory Team for an informal grievance or when filing a formal grievance. If you believe a conflict of interest exists, follow the grievance procedure.

Complaints: Complaints can be made when matters are significant or services are suspended or a client is discharged, in the following ways:

- **DPPC Complaint:** If you feel that you have been neglected or abused by a paid staff member of Sunshine Village, you can contact the Disabled Persons Protection Commission (DPPC) at 1.800.426.9009.
- **Complaint Regarding a Suspension or Discharge:** Clients and/or their guardian/family member who believe that they have been unjustly suspended or discharged from services and who wish to file a formal grievance should take the following steps:
 - Submit a written statement to the Director of Day Services within ten business days of the suspension/discharge. The Director of Day Services will investigate and respond in writing within ten business days.
 - If you are not satisfied with the response, you can submit a written statement to the Executive Director within ten business days of the initial response. The Executive Director will investigate and respond to you, in writing, within ten business days.
 - If you continue to be dissatisfied, you can call your DDS Service Coordinator or MassHealth representative.

PROTECTION AND HARASSMENT PREVENTION (ANTI-HARASSMENT): Sunshine Village promotes a workplace free from harassment. Harassment means unwelcome conduct whether verbal or physical based upon a characteristic protected by law.

Harassment includes actions such as, but not only,

- Display of pictures, written materials that are degrading to a person or group.
- Verbal abuse, slurs or insults and comments about or directed towards an individual or group.

Sexual harassment means unwelcome sexual advances which can include:

- Unwelcome sexual advances—whether they include physical touching or not
- Sexual jokes, stories, gossip regarding someone’s dating habits, showing sexual objects, pictures, cartoons, insulting comments, whistling, staring, or talking of personal sexual activities.

If you believe you have been involved in harassment, you have the right to file a complaint – verbally or in writing - with the Human Rights Officer, PBS Representative, Program Manager or Director of Day Services. Management will investigate, respond to you and take corrective action, if necessary.

SAFETY REQUIREMENTS: Sunshine Village has comprehensive Safety, Risk Management, Emergency Preparedness, Accessibility and Security Plans. It is up to everyone to help maintain welcoming, safe and secure environments. You can help by adhering to the following standards, policies and protocols:

Seatbelts: Seatbelts must be worn when driving or riding in a vehicle. This is a law in Massachusetts.

Vehicle Safety: Everyone must sit in a seat when driving or riding in a vehicle. Blocking the driver’s view or grabbing a steering wheel or gears is against the rules. Yelling is not allowed. The driver has the right to assign you to a particular seat.

Bad Weather / Emergency Closing: If the weather is bad or there is an emergency, Sunshine Village may be closed or have a delayed opening. An announcement will be made on the television station WWLP Channel 22 as “Sunshine Village.” A voice mail message can be listened to after 6:30 am by calling the main number of (413)592-6142. An announcement will also be posted on the agency’s website: www.sunshine.us

Mandated Reporting: Any person witnessing mistreatment of a person with a disability is responsible for reporting mistreatment to DPPC at 1-800-426-9009.

Records: Records are primarily electronic and maintained for all individuals. You may review your record at any time by requesting access from your supervisor or case manager. If you need assistance reading the record, support will be provided.

Dress/Attire: Everyone should present themselves in an appropriately dressed, neat and clean manner. Clothing should be appropriate for the day and no vulgarity or offensive language should be worn. **Please see Dress Code Specific to WMS below**

Smoking: Individuals who smoke must smoke outside in designated areas only and extinguish all incendiary materials properly.

WESTOVER MAINTANENCE SYSTEMS (WMS)

The Sunshine Village Westover Maintenance Systems explains expectations, policies and benefits offered by the agency and the job responsibilities for each custodian who works at Westover Maintenance Systems.

Our services at WMS are offered Monday through Friday between the hours of 8am-2pm and clients are paid 5 hours daily with an unpaid 15-minute break and 45-minute lunch.

If you ever have any questions or concerns, you can discuss this handbook with any of your supervisors, support staff or case manager. If you need help to review, your support staff can assist.

Sunshine Village is committed to your success. Sunshine Village is committed to supporting you in your personal growth and promoting human rights while simultaneously ensuring your health and safety.

PAID EMPLOYMENT: As an employee of Westover Maintenance Systems, a division of Sunshine Village, you will be paid according to the federal contract from Source America under which the organization operates this program.

PAY PERIOD AND PROCEDURE: Sunshine Village has a weekly payroll cycle. You will be paid every Thursday and you will use the agency's on-line payroll system and your check will be deposited directly into your bank account. The paycheck reflects a work week from Sunday through Saturday.

If you have any questions regarding pay, the payroll department is located at 75 Litwin Lane, Chicopee, MA and can be reached at 413.592.6142.

WAGE: You are paid according to contract wage determination. Westover is managed under a federal contract and the minimum hourly wage you earn, regardless of your production, is \$17.58 hourly. This wage is determined by a Wage Determination process and is subject to change.

In addition to the hourly minimum wage, you will also earn an hourly health and welfare benefit for the hours you have worked up to 40 hours per week. This wage is determined by Wage Determination and is subject to change. The current H&W benefit is \$4.57 hourly and may change at any time.

TIME AND ATTENDANCE: Regular attendance and reporting to work on time is expected for everyone. It is important to work when scheduled. If you are out of work due to illness for more than 5 days, a doctor's note is required.

CALL OUT PROCEDURE: If you are not able to report to work as scheduled, you must contact the Program Supervisor at 413.593.5883 by 8:00 am.

If you call out from work, sick time or vacation time will be used unless all paid time has been exhausted.

BENEFITS: Through the federal contract and as an employee of Sunshine Village, you are entitled to benefits, including paid time off – including vacation time, sick time and paid holidays.

PAID VACATION TIME: Westover Maintenance Systems and its federal contract specifies after working for a period of one year, you will earn paid vacation time as follows for full-time clients:

- 1 year to 5 years: 10 days of PTO

- 5+ years to 15 years: 15 days of PTO
- 15+ years to 25 years: 20 days of PTO
- 25+ years: 25 days of PTO

A part-time individual will receive vacation time at a pro-rate based upon the number of days scheduled.

Please notify the Program Supervisor one week in advance of scheduled days off.

Sunshine Village encourages use of your paid vacation time benefit. Unused vacation time carries over each year during the 5-year contract. At the end of the 5-year contract, any unused time will be paid out.

PAID SICK TIME: You will earn 1 hour of sick time for every 30 hours you work up to 56 hours per year. Sick time cannot be carried over year to year.

PAID HOLIDAYS: Full-time individuals receive paid holidays according to a schedule established by Sunshine Village each year. Additional holidays may be added upon order of the federal contract or the President of the United States.

The following days are paid: New Year's Day, Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, President's Day, Memorial Day, Juneteenth-National Independence Day, Fourth of July, Labor Day, Columbus Day, Veteran's Day, Thanksgiving, Day after Thanksgiving (in place of Easter) and Christmas.

Part-time individuals are paid holidays proportionate to their schedule.

BEREAVEMENT LEAVE: You are allowed up to 3 days off from regularly scheduled duty with regular pay in the event of the death of your spouse or domestic partner, child, foster child, father, father-in-law, mother, mother-in-law, son-in-law, daughter-in-law, brother, sister, stepfather, stepmother, stepbrother, stepsister, stepson or stepdaughter, grandparents, grandparent-in-law, and grandchildren.

You are allowed 1 day off from regular scheduled duty with regular pay in the event of death of your aunt, uncle, brother-in-law, or sister-in-law.

Time off will be pro-rated to your standard hours.

JURY DUTY: If you are called to jury duty, the agency will give you the time off work and pay you your regular pay minus the amount paid by the court.

PARENTAL LEAVE: If you have a baby or adopt a baby, the agency will give you 8 weeks off from work. You do not get paid for this time. You may be eligible for paid leave through Massachusetts Paid Family and Medical Leave.

FEDERAL FAMILY MEDICAL LEAVE ACT: Eligible individuals are provided up to 12 weeks of unpaid leave each year for any of the following reasons including:

- For the birth and care of a newborn child;
- For placement with the individual of a child for adoption or foster care;

- To care for an immediate family member-spouse, child, parent- with a serious health condition;
- To take medical leave when the individual is unable to work because of a serious health condition.

Individuals are eligible for FMLA leave if they have worked for Sunshine Village for at least 12 months and have worked at least 1250 hours over the past 12 months.

PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT: All individuals are required to work professionally and produce quality work while maintaining production at or above 50%. This is an expectation and condition of your employment. Twice per year, your productivity will be evaluated to ensure your continued performance is meeting or exceeding this standard.

New custodial workers are evaluated within 30 days via a 'Time Study Evaluation' to determine productivity.

Performance Evaluations are conducted annually, or as needed.

ACCIDENT/ILLNESS: If you are hurt or injured while at work or become sick, your support staff will make sure you receive medical attention. We may require a doctor's note when you come back to work. The doctor's note must explain what you can or cannot do. If you are hurt or injured while working, you may qualify for worker's compensation.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT: Training opportunities will be provided regularly focusing on professional, foundational leadership and personal growth.

WMS DRESS CODE: Sunshine Village requires everyone to maintain a neat and clean appearance appropriate for the workplace setting and work being performed. A professional image and acceptable personal appearance are an on-going requirement for employment. All clothing should be neat and clean and there should be no offensive words, phrases or pictures displayed.

As required by the federal contract, WMS personnel, including clients, are expected to wear "logo'd" clothing. Sunshine Village provides sweatshirts, long and short sleeved t-shirts and jackets and requires all personnel to wear them.

Shorts are permitted. Shorts must be of an appropriate length. Strapless shirts, tank tops and sandals are not permitted. Baseball caps and other hats are not allowed inside buildings. Sunglasses shall not be worn inside buildings.

ADDITIONAL EXPECTATIONS FOR WMS:

Personal Business: You cannot conduct personal business while at work.

Federal Government Issued ID: You are required to wear a government issued picture identification card at all times.

Safety Protection: Safety equipment must be used if provided.

Property: You must be careful and respect the agency's property. You cannot remove any property from the work setting. You cannot damage or break the company's property on purpose.

Defective Work: You cannot waste or hide any bad work, mistakes, or problems. If you make a mistake, you must tell your supervisor right away.

Cell Phones: Cell phones can only be used during lunch and breaks. If an emergency exists, warranting a phone call outside of lunch and breaks, notify your supervisor.

Smoking: There is no smoking on the base. When at the main office individuals who smoke are expected smoke in designated areas.

FUNDING AGENCY: Your services are funded by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and Department of Developmental Services (DDS) as well as other funding sources. The cost of your services is dependent on your needs and abilities and the type of services for which you are enrolled. Since Sunshine Village receives payment to provide your services, Sunshine Village is required to communicate your progress or lack of progress to our funding sources. This communication may include your Service Coordinator and other members of your team.

ELECTRONIC HEALTH RECORD: Sunshine Village maintains an electronic record which includes your personal information such as your emergency contact information, social security information, date of birth, medical and your person-centered individual support plan with your goals and objectives and progress toward your goals. You can access your electronic health record by asking your Program Manager and/ or Case Manager. Either the Program Manager or Case Manager will sit with you and review with you. We do require notice and will sit with you within 1 day to review. If you would like a copy of something in your record, we will provide it within 3 business days.

COMMUNICATION: Since Sunshine Village receives payment to provide your services, Sunshine Village is required to communicate your progress or lack of progress to our funding source. This communication may include your Service Coordinator and other members of your team.

Sunshine Village maintains an electronic record which includes your personal information such as your emergency contact information, social security information, date of birth, medical and your person-centered individual support plan with your goals and objectives and progress toward your goals. You can access your electronic health record by asking your Program Manager and/ or Case Manager. Either the Program Manager or Case Manager will sit with you and review with you. We do require notice and will sit with you within 1 day to review. If you would like a copy of something in your record, we will provide them within three business days.

Sunshine Village is committed to insuring your health and safety. Elements of your day necessitating communication with your home environment regarding your health and safety will be shared.

Our preferred method of communication is via telephone and e-mail. We do not send written

notes back and forth between home and Sunshine Village.

Privacy and respect are paramount within all communication and between all parties.

MONEY MANAGEMENT: Sunshine Village can support you to manage your spending money while at the program if you and your team believe you need help. If you and your team believe you need support, an individualized financial support plan can be developed and followed to assist you.

CHOICE: Sunshine Village has a philosophical orientation that emphasizes your ability to assess your needs and make choices about what services would best meet your needs in conjunction with families, the organization and its funding source. Sunshine Village values the partnerships established within your team.

Sunshine Village is committed to your success and is committed to supporting you in your personal growth and promoting human rights while simultaneously ensuring your health and safety.

EXPECTATIONS FOR CLIENTS IN ALL PROGRAMS

ATTENDANCE: Attendance in the ES/CBDS program must meet a **minimum of 85% to stay enrolled, unless otherwise approved or pre-approved for part time status.**

PERSONAL WELLNESS: Sunshine Village is committed to insuring your health and safety as well as the health of all clients in the program. We provide an active and engaging day and expect you to be well and symptom free of illness to attend and participate fully. **If you are ill and need to go home to rest and get well, we will contact your guardian/family/residential provider and you will need to be picked up within two hours of the initial call.**

ABSENCES: If you are absent from the program, please notify the Program Manager or Case Manager. You will also want to let your transportation driver know of your absence.

If you are absent **more than 5 days due to an illness**, you need a note from your physician prior to your return. Depending on your illness or condition, other conditions may apply. You will not be able to attend until the proper documentation is received.

In addition to requiring a note from your physician when you are absent more than 5 days, you will need a physician note and medical clearance to return to the day habilitation program supplied on or before returning after absences (regardless of length of absence) and pertinent documentation for the following medical concerns:

- **Hospitalizations**—the hospital discharge summary including any new restrictions, medication or treatment changes and a Health Care Provider’s note to return must be supplied.
- **Emergency room visits**—the emergency room discharge form and a Health Care Provider’s note to return must be supplied.
- **Swallowing studies**—a copy of the test as well as any updated Dining Guidelines and a Health Care Provider’s order for any new dietary modifications must be supplied.

- Orthopedic issues including sprains and broken bones—Sunshine Village must be supplied with a health care provider’s order for weight bearing status, directions for ambulation, directions for any equipment to be used, as well Health Care Provider’s note to return.

Any significant change in your health status requires a Health Care Provider’s note and Sunshine Village may suspend your services until proper documentation is obtained.

Any significant change in your health status requires a Health Care Provider’s note and Sunshine Village may suspend your services until proper documentation is obtained.

REQUIRED MEDICAL DOCUMENTATION: A current physical-not more than two years old-must be forwarded to Sunshine Village as well as any medication orders that the organization is responsible for administering. Sunshine Village may suspend your services if a current physical is not on file.

To better support individuals and keep them safe and well, we require copies of evaluations and ongoing follow-up care reports from specialty medical providers the individual sees for health conditions and diagnosis. This includes but is not limited to:

- Neurology
- Cardiology
- Pulmonology
- Endocrinology
- Psychiatry

CUSTOMER INPUT: Your input is valued and important and you can provide feedback formally during meetings as well as informally, through personal communication and electronic means. Sunshine Village administers an annual Satisfaction Survey where clients and/or guardians can express opinions about services and supports. Participation in all surveys is voluntary.

PROHIBITED CONDUCT: Sunshine Village has an expectation that all clients and employees will treat each other with dignity and respect and help to ensure that all environments are warm, welcoming and safe. This handbook details the Code of Conduct and Expectations and support staff will educate and encourage all clients to understand and comply with expectations.

Bullying is not allowed and violence of any kind is not acceptable. Hitting, biting, slapping, kicking, pinching, spitting and destroying property are examples of violent behavior. Individuals engaged in this type of behavior will be assessed and a plan may be developed to address the behavior(s).

Weapons, including guns, knives and switchblades, are not allowed. If you see a weapon, do not touch the weapon, notify the Program Manager or Case Manager and contact 911.

Illegal drug use is not acceptable for either clients or employees of SSV. Clients are not allowed to participate in programming if they are impaired by alcohol or illegal drugs.

If you need support in being respectful or to comply with any of the expectations outlines in this

handbook, education and clinical supports are available.

EMPLOYEE QUALIFICATIONS: Sunshine Village recruits and retains caring people to work within programs and support services. The organization provides on-going, robust professional development to ensure that all employees satisfy performance requirements.

- All support personnel are at least 18 years of age and have a current driver's license.
- Newly hired employees undergo a comprehensive orientation program and then receive the professional development opportunities provided to all employees.
- All personnel must undergo a criminal record check and fingerprint-based background checks for employment at Sunshine Village. A criminal record will not automatically disqualify an applicant.
- Certain positions require a college education and licensure. Credentials are secured for all positions requiring a college degree or license.
- Program Managers and Case Managers are regularly available within the program between 8:00 am and 4:00pm – although programs may close early for holidays or at other times. Direct Support Programs (DSPs) typically work from 8:30 am to 3:30 pm.
- Some employees, including many DSPs, work with other human services organizations when not working at Sunshine Village. If this poses a conflict for you, please let your Program Manager or Case Manager know.

Various Policies used prior to 1999

Employment Services Personnel Handbook established 2000

Revised 2001 (added Benefits)

Revised February 2002 (added Conflict Resolution)

Revised: December 2003 (added Code of Ethics)

Revised: November 2004 to be effective January 2005 (removed 'significant other' clause)

March 2005 (revised Conflict Resolution and add Grievance)

Revised 2006: Name Change and Risk Statement

Revised 2008: Conflict of Staff and Cost of Service and Records

Revised 2009: Picture Identification/Wages and payday change (Fridays to Thursdays)

Revised 2009: Clarification of vacation time.

Revised March 2011: Clarification of Wkplce Violence/Respectful Interactions/Hours of Service

Revised January 2013 Change in benefits

Revised March 2013: Clarify dress code.

Revised January 2014: Change in benefits Revised 2017: Change in pay and CBDS

Revised 2019: Separate CBDS

Revised 2020: Added DDS Conflict Resolution

Revised 2022

Revised 2023: Record access

Revised March 6 2024 Removed COVID reference under absences

Revised December 2024