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FAQ for Hotels

First of all, thank you for your dedication to the survivors we serve. The COVID 19 pandemic presents unprecedented challenges to our work as we resolve to keep our doors open and vital services accessible to all who need them.

ODVN has developed a hotel placement program for our shelters to reduce the number of residents, facilitate social distancing, and provide additional flexibility in managing shelter bed logistics. This program is in direct response to increased housing needs arising because of COVID-19.

Here's what you can expect if you work with our program:

Q: How do you decide who gets emergency funding?

A: The funding is intended to decrease shelter density and combat spread of disease by creating flexibility in bed management. Residents eligible for hotel stay must be able to manage in a hotel/motel setting with remote support and/or at higher risk for complications should they be exposed to COVID 19. At this time, these funds are not to be used for survivors or family members who have tested positively for COVID 19.

Q: How long will people stay?

A: The maximum stay is 14 days.

Q: Who will be staying in my hotel?

A: Survivors age 18. They will almost always be working with a local shelter, so the advocate at the shelter will act as the primary contact as we help them arrange lodging. If the survivor has children, the children will come as well.

Q: Would survivors be coming and going?

A: Yes. Unfortunately, we cannot reasonably ask that survivors only stay in their rooms, and we will not have a way to monitor whether or not they do or don't leave their rooms. They would be free to come and go to essential appointments, get groceries or food, take their kids outside, etc.

Q: Are the survivors who are going to be coming in ill?

A: Most of them will not be sick. We are expanding our program to focus on decreasing shelter density and offering a resource for medically vulnerable program participants. However, if a community has a comprehensive plan for working with survivors who have symptoms and hotels agree up front to house them, then hotels could be used for survivors with symptoms.

Q: How would ODVN pay and when?

A: Once a request is submitted to ODVN and is approved, we are hoping that we can be invoiced for the payment, so a check can be issued. Invoicing is ideal because it allows us to write one check in case there are multiple survivors staying at the hotel. If that is impossible, an ODVN staff member will call and use a credit card to pay.

Thank you again for your time and consideration! Hotels just like yours are helping us make a huge difference for survivors during this difficult and uncertain time.