



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND HEALTH SERVICES
AGING AND LONG-TERM SUPPORT ADMINISTRATION
20311 52nd Ave W, Suite 100, Lynnwood, WA 98036

03/27/2025

GOLDEN COTTAGE AFH INC
GOLDEN COTTAGE AFH INC
13809 125TH AVE NE
KIRKLAND, WA 98034

RE: GOLDEN COTTAGE AFH INC # 752778

Dear Provider:

This letter addresses deficiencies occurring in the report(s) for: Compliance Determination(s) 57052 (Completion Date 03/27/2025) and 55514 (Completion Date 02/25/2025).

The Department completed a follow-up inspection of your Adult Family Home on 03/27/2025 and found no deficiencies.

The Department found that deficiencies for the following licensing laws and regulations were corrected:

WAC 388-76-10025 License annual fee.

- (1) The adult family home must pay the license fee that is established in the state's operating budget, as described in RCW 70.128.060.
- (2) Each year, the home's annual license fee is due during the same month in which the home was initially licensed. For example, if the home was licensed in June, 2010, then the annual licensing fee will be due in June of each year.
- (3) The home must ensure that the department receives the annual license fee when it is due.

The Department staff who did the Off Site verification:
Jimmie Jordan, NCI

If you have any questions, please contact me at (206)914-5042.

Sincerely,

Renee Bourque

This document was prepared by Residential Care Services for the Locator website.

Renee Bourque, Field Manager
Region 2, Unit K
Residential Care Services

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Statement of Deficiencies	License #: 752778	Compliance Determination #55514
Plan of Correction	GOLDEN COTTAGE AFH INC	Completion Date
Page 1 of 3	Licensee: GOLDEN COTTAGE AFH INC	02/25/2025

You are required to be in compliance at all times with all licensing laws and regulations to maintain your Adult Family Home license.

The department completed data collection for an unannounced on-site complaint investigation on 02/25/2025 of:

GOLDEN COTTAGE AFH INC
13809 125TH AVE NE
KIRKLAND, WA 98034

This document references the following complaint number(s): 165338

The following sample was selected for review during the unannounced on-site visit: 2 of 6 current residents and 0 former residents.

The department staff that investigated the Adult Family Home:

Jimmie Jordan, NCI

From:
DSHS, Aging and Long-Term Support Administration
Residential Care Services, Region 2, Unit K
20311 52nd Ave W, Suite 100
Lynnwood, WA 98036

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Plan of Correction	GOLDEN COTTAGE AFH INC	Completion Date
Page 2 of 3	Licensee: GOLDEN COTTAGE AFH INC	02/25/2025

As a result of the on-site visit(s), the department found that you are not in compliance with the licensing laws and regulations as stated in the cited deficiencies in the enclosed report.

Alfredo Brown
Residential Care Services

03/03/2025
Date

I understand that to maintain an Adult Family Home license, I must be in compliance with all the licensing laws and regulations at all times.

Laura Tancu
Provider (or Representative)

03/05/2025
Date

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- (3) The home must ensure that the department receives the annual license fee when it is due.

This requirement was not met as evidenced by:

Based on record review, observation and interview, the Adult Family Home (AFH) failed to pay the annual licensing fee of \$1,350.00 before the due date on 12/15/2024. This failure resulted in the AFH operating without a valid license since 12/15/2024.

Findings included...

Review of the Department Records, on 02/25/2025, showed the AFH did not pay their annual licensing fee. The Department database showed the balance as \$1,350.00.

Observation on 02/25/2025 at 9:30 AM showed that the AFH had 5 residents who received care and 2 caregivers that provided care.

In an interview, on 02/25/2025 at 2:50 PM, Staff A, Provider, stated that Staff B, Provider's spouse, handled the payment of the AFH expenses. Staff B stated they sent the payment in October 2024 after receiving the notice, but they didn't verify if the

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Date

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Plan of Correction	GOLDEN COTTAGE AFH INC	Completion Date
Page 3 of 3	Licensee: GOLDEN COTTAGE AFH INC	02/25/2026

payment was received by the Department. Staff B stated that the payment check never cleared their bank account.

I hereby certify that I have reviewed this report and have taken or will take active measures to correct this deficiency. By taking this action, GOLDEN COTTAGE AFH INC is or will be in compliance with this law and / or regulation on (Date) 03/05/2025

In addition, I will implement a system to monitor and ensure continued compliance with this requirement.

Laura Lencu

Provider (or Representative)

03/05/2025

Date

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Provider (or Representative)

Date

To: DSHS, Aging and Long-Term Support Administration
Residential Care Services, Region 2, Unit K

Subject: Provider's Response Regarding Citation and Investigation Related to WAC 388-76-10025
License Annual Fee on 02/25/2025

Our Adult Family Home (AFH) license was due for renewal in December 2024, the same month the home was initially licensed.

The department issued an invoice in October 2024. On October 19, 2024, the AFH mailed a check to the department, ensuring that all the required details were included. The check stated "AFH Annual License Fee" along with the corresponding license number.

On February 25, 2025, at 2:50 PM, during the investigation, the licensor pointed out a deficiency related to the unpaid license fee. In response, the AFH promptly (at 2:56 PM) provided a copy of the check that had been sent to the department, which was dated October 19, 2024, along with the invoice, to demonstrate that the payment had been made on time. However, the licensor indicated that the department had not received the payment.

On February 25, 2025, the AFH sent the department another check for the annual license fee. This time, the check was sent via certified mail, and the receipt, which shows the mailing time as 4:53 PM, was kept. A copy of the receipt was provided to the department. The AFH also received confirmation that the mail was delivered.

As of March 5, 2025, the bank account shows that the payment has cleared. The DSHS Office of Financial Recovery successfully processed the check issued on February 25, 2025.

Additional information regarding this matter for all Adult Family Homes in Washington State.

During the RCS AFH Provider Forum virtual session on February 26, 2025, the RCS Leadership Team from Residential Care Services highlighted that the most common citation issued to AFHs between December 2024 and February 2025 was related to WAC 388-76-10025, which concerns the annual licensing fee. A total of 136 citations were recorded during this period. This suggests a significant issue with the current payment system used by DSHS.

Despite numerous requests from Adult Family Home providers for improvements, this issue has not received sufficient attention. We continue to rely on multiple parties to ensure that payments are received and processed by the department. Should there be any delays or issues among the parties involved that result in late payment, the AFHs are the sole entities to bear the consequences of such challenges.

Currently, the DSHS system does not allow AFH providers to verify the status of their licenses. Additionally, AFHs do not receive notifications regarding nonpayment, late fees, or inactive license statuses; instead, AFHs face investigations. Furthermore, if this deficiency is recurring, a fine of \$1,000 is imposed.

The AFH community has consistently recommended that the department introduce an automatic payment option. This change would greatly reduce the challenges encountered by both the department and the providers.

AFH providers would benefit from a simplified payment process and increased transparency, which would help ensure that their licenses remain active. Meanwhile, the department would benefit from the timely collection of its fees, which is essential for maintaining its financial resources.

Respectfully submitted by Laura Iancu RN – Provider at Golden Cottage AFH