

**Mike Dunn** <[Mike\\_Dunn@apd.state.fl.us](mailto:Mike_Dunn@apd.state.fl.us)> wrote:

The Governor's office asked that we respond to your concern about the 10% density rule and how it impacts supported living services. Section 393.063(38) provides the definition of supported living as:

"Supported living" means a category of individually determined services designed and coordinated in such a manner as to provide assistance to adult clients who require ongoing supports to live as independently as possible in their own homes, to be integrated into the community, and to participate in community life to the fullest extent possible.

There is no intent to discriminate against anyone. The goal of the supported living program is to comply with the statutory definition of supported living and to provide the opportunity for individuals with developmental disabilities to live as independently as possible and be as much a part of the community as possible. The intent of the density rule is to avoid the development of living situations which interfere with the ability to be an integrated part of the community. One of the primary goals of services for individuals with developmental disabilities is to enhance the concept of inclusion rather than exclusion.

The language in the Handbook allows no more than 10% density in the smallest identifiable geographical area in which the homes are located, which may be a city block, subdivision, neighborhood, apartment complex or mobile home park. The recipient's home must be scattered, noncontiguous, and dispersed throughout that area. This allows individuals with developmental disabilities to live in the same neighborhoods, without creating a barrier to integration into the community.

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