



Walkaway Behavior Prevention Tips of the Week

Walkaway Behavior Prevention Tips of the Week: Assessment and Intervention

1. Work with a Board Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA) to have a functional behavior assessment (FBA) completed. This will determine why the behavior occurs (escape, access to tangibles, sensory, attention).
2. Based on the FBA results, utilize a Behavior Support Provider to create person-centered behavior interventions to decrease walkaway behavior. Incorporate the interventions in the individual's Behavior Support Plan (BSP).
3. Document walkaway behavior in the individual's ISP including any patterns that may be displayed (favorite location, antecedents, etc.)
4. Develop an emergency protocol for situations when an individual cannot be located. Ensure all staff are properly trained on these strategies.

Walkaway Behavior Prevention Tips of the Week: Proactive Measures

1. Use an unsupervised time assessment to identify the appropriate supervision level.
2. Inform local authorities if an individual is prone to walkaway behavior.
3. Keep an updated picture of the individual to share with first responders.
4. Be mindful of what the individual is wearing daily.
5. Make a list of locations that the individual frequents or if they have a preferred location.
6. Develop relationships with neighbors and provide pertinent contact information.
7. Human Rights Committee (HRC) must be consulted in licensed settings for:
 - Wearable technology for tracking purposes.
 - Use cell phone for tracking purposes.

Walkaway Behavior Prevention Tips of the Week: Environmental Recommendations

1. Position staff near exits during overnight hours if possible, and ensure staff are aware of the whereabouts of all individuals at all times.
2. Station motion cameras and lights around the perimeter.
3. Provide a fenced-in gate to deter backyard walkaways.
4. Office of Licensing (OOL) and HRC must be consulted in licensed settings for:
 - Placing non-shrill alert chimes on doors and window.
 - Utilizing surveillance cameras in common areas.
5. Rationale for all of these items must be documented in the ISP.

Walkaway Behavior Prevention: Law Enforcement and Incident Reporting

When to call 911 or Local Law Enforcement

1. If the individual cannot be located after an initial search of the premises.
2. If the individual cannot be followed after exiting the premises due to the supervision needs of the other individuals in the home.
3. If the individual is followed after exiting the premises but the follower loses sight of the individual.
4. An individual does not return to the premises following the allotted unsupervised time in the community.
5. For law enforcement notification, make sure to document the date and time the notification was made, the name of the police precinct, the name of the officer who took the report, and the police report number.

Incident Reporting

1. Report the incident to the **DDD Office of Risk Management (ORM)** as soon as possible or notify DDD On-call if the walkaway occurs after hours.
2. Submit an incident report as soon as it is safe. Make sure the incident report is as detailed as possible.
3. Document the law enforcement notification and HSP notification in the incident report.
4. Make sure all elements of the DDD ORM [walkaway checklist](#) are captured in the incident report.

[Incident Reporting Information](#)