

## General Event Reports (GERs) – Week 6 Questions

### Categorizing GERs

Q: After using independent time, a participant came home with a bike that did not belong to him. When asked about the bike, he stated someone gave it to him. He then added to his story, saying a kid gave him the bike, but the kid was moving, so he no longer lives where he was. The participant became highly agitated and escalated quickly, leading us to not believe his story. Should we report this under Misconduct/Possible Criminal Activity?

A: Yes. Since the behavior is possibly theft, it is reportable as Misconduct.

Q: Under Swallowing Inedibles, we have a participant who picks up and puts small bits of things in her mouth. She will do this up to 80 times in a week. The objects are often small-sized pieces of paper or a leaf. She is very quick and although she has one-on-one staff, she cannot be stopped every time. Are we required to notify her guardian and do a daily GER with up to 15-20 incidents per day? This seems like an extreme amount of work for something addressed in her safety plan.

A: All incidents of swallowing inedible items must be reported. A provider may combine multiple events occurring in the same day into one GER. This will prevent large numbers of GERs. For example, when John Doe swallows inedible items on the same day at 8 AM, 10:30 AM, 1 PM, and 6:12 PM, the provider may enter one GER with four events, instead of four separate GERs. When John Doe swallows several inedible items in a continuous event, such as one at 8:15 AM, one at 8:20 AM, and one at 8:45 AM, the provider may enter one GER with one event and note all items in the event summary.

### Medical and Covid GERs

Q: We have a participant who is not currently receiving services, as they are out of state visiting their mother. They tested positive for COVID while out of services and will remain out of state for ten days. Do we complete a GER?

A: A GER is not required since the event happened when services were not being provided.