



## State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES  
50 EAST STATE STREET  
P.O. BOX 729  
TRENTON, NEW JERSEY 08625-0729

PHIL MURPHY  
*Governor*

SHEILA Y. OLIVER  
*Lt. Governor*

CHRISTINE NORBUT BEYER, MSW  
*Commissioner*

April 23, 2021

Dear Resource Parent(s),

On April 19<sup>th</sup>, Governor Phil Murphy announced that all individuals, aged 16 and older are eligible to receive the COVID-19 vaccination, at the recommendation of the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

While DCF policies surrounding standard child and adolescent immunizations acknowledge preventive care as an essential part of maintaining health, the COVID-19 vaccine is not yet determined to be a 'routine' or 'universal' medical remedy.

Therefore, at this time, the Department of Children and Families (DCF) is not permitting Resource Family providers to consent to or take a youth to obtain the COVID-19 vaccine without first receiving approval from the Division of Child Protection and Permanency (CP&P). If a youth, age 16 or older, in CP&P care and custody requests to obtain the COVID-19, CP&P will attempt to obtain consent from the youth's parent(s) or, potentially notice the court and all counsel to obtain the necessary approvals. If you have any questions about this, please feel free to reach out to your resource worker or CP&P local office staff.

(Note: Information regarding child and adolescent immunizations is outlined in the following DCP&P policies: Policy and Procedures Manual, VA1 § 1400 and Policy and Procedures Manual, IIC9 § 100.)

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Carmen Diaz-Petti, LCSW".

Carmen Diaz-Petti, LCSW  
CP&P Assistant Commissioner  
Department of Children and Families

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