

## Memorandum

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**To:** Children's System of Care Congregate Care Residential Treatment Programs Contracted by the New Jersey Department of Children and Families

**From:** Christine Beyer, Commissioner  
Department of Children and Families

**Date:** January 4, 2022

**Subject:** Interim Guidance for Programs Covered by the October 12, 2021 Updated COVID-19 Guidance for the Children's System of Care Congregate Care Residential Treatment Programs Contracted by the New Jersey Department of Children and Families

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In light of the current COVID-19 surge related to the Omicron variant, the New Jersey Department of Children and Families (DCF) is issuing the following interim guidance for programs covered by the [October 12, 2021 Updated COVID-19 Guidance for the Children's System of Care Congregate Residential Treatment Programs Contracted by the New Jersey Department of Children and Families](#).

Effective immediately:

- 1) Admissions to emergency residential treatment programs identified in [Appendix A](#) of the above-referenced guidance will continue on a case-by-case basis. Admissions to all other residential treatment programs identified in Appendix A are suspended until further notice.
- 2) Off-site visitation or home passes are suspended until further notice. On-site visitation shall continue to take place unless a program is experiencing an outbreak as determined by the local board of health.

Please continue to complete the Out-of-Home Provider COVID Concerns Daily Survey. Following completion of the survey, a Children's System of Care (CSOC) representative will connect with you to discuss further needs. This follow-up will occur on regular business days. In the event of an emergency during non-business hours, please follow the emergency reporting protocols in the [October 12, 2021 guidance](#). Please also continue to complete an Unusual Incident Report for any COVID-19 issue that impacts services.

Please continue to monitor the following sites for the most up-to-date information for employers, health care workers, congregate living providers, and the general public:

- The New Jersey COVID-19 Information Hub at: <https://www.covid19.nj.gov>
- Governor Murphy's Executive Orders at: <https://nj.gov/infobank/eo/056murphy/>
- The New Jersey Department of Health Executive Directives at: <https://nj.gov/health/legal/covid19/#2>
- The New Jersey Department of Health Communicable Disease Service COVID-19 resource site at: <https://www.nj.gov/health/cd/topics/ncov.shtml>
- The CDC COVID-19 resource site at: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/index.html>