Memorandum

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

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 Care 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