



State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES
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Chief Executive Office

April 2, 2020

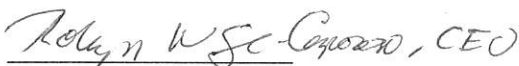
Dear Employee,

As you are aware, on March 9, 2020, Governor Philip D. Murphy declared a public health emergency and State of emergency in New Jersey under Executive Order 103, followed by the federal government declaring a national emergency on March 13, 2020, regarding the rapidly evolving COVID-19 pandemic. The Department of Health's (DOH), Division of Behavioral Health Services (DBHS) has been preparing for the impact of COVID-19 on our State Psychiatric Hospitals. It is of the utmost importance to secure the safety of our employees and patients while providing continuity of care to our patients during this public health, State and national emergency.

Currently, the impact of COVID-19 has reached each of our State Psychiatric Hospitals with confirmed positive test results. Individuals in the hospitals that test positive for COVID-19 are being quarantined and/or isolated pursuant to the guidelines established by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). The DBHS has developed COVID-19 guidance for our hospitals and employees for example, on piloting Telehealth by hospital employee and contracted health care providers. The hospitals have also started rotating employees offsite to the extent possible. They have also obtained additional masks for use in the hospitals. Each hospital will post data summary information of COVID-19 testing and cases specific to the hospital on the hospital's Intranet website. Ann Klein Forensic Center will distribute the data summary information in paper format.

Our hospital employees are at the forefront of this COVID-19 pandemic. As always, we appreciate your dedication and service to our patients particularly as we serve some of the State's most vulnerable populations. We continue to closely assess this emergency on a daily basis at this time and we will make changes to our guidance as needed. We will also provide additional updates as more information becomes available.

Sincerely,



Robyn Wramage-Caporoso, MA, OT
Chief Executive Officer