



# **NJ DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES**

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## **DIVISION OF DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES**

### **Division Update for Individuals, Families, and Providers**

**December 16, 2021**

# Agenda

- COVID-19 Statistics
- January and Calendar Year 2022 Webinars
- New Jersey State Minimum Wage Increase
- Projected January 1, 2022 Rate Increase
- Reminder of January 1 Changes to Day and Residential Temporary Funding
- Upcoming Guidance
- Resources



# New Jersey COVID-19 Current Statistics\*

State of New Jersey	
Positive	1,138,494
Deaths	25,808

*\*This update is as of Wednesday, December 15, 2021.*

**For regular updates: <https://covid19.nj.gov/>**

**Consider downloading COVID Alert NJ on your Apple or Android smartphone: <https://covid19.nj.gov/pages/app>**

# DDD Specific COVID-19 Statistics\*

	Community		Developmental Centers	Total
	Licensed	Own Home		
Positive	2,061	800	705	3,566
Deaths	118	67	42	227

*\*DDD-specific statistics are updated weekly. Community data includes individuals **actively** under DDD services in settings such as group homes, supervised apartments, out of state, and own-home settings.*

*Full detail, including data for individuals not under services for whom reporting is voluntary and provided for informational purposes only, can be found at [NJ Department of Human Services COVID-19 Information](#).*



# COVID-19 Update Webinar Schedule

- January Update Webinar:
  - Thursday, January 27, 2021 – 10:30am
- [Register for the January Webinar](#)
- Tentative 2022 Webinar Dates are:

Thursday, January 27, 2022	Thursday, July 28, 2022
Thursday, February 24, 2022	Thursday, August 25, 2022
Thursday, March 24, 2022	Thursday, September 22, 2022
Thursday, April 28, 2022	Thursday, October 27, 2022
Thursday, May 26, 2022	Thursday, November 17, 2022
Thursday, June 23, 2022	Thursday, December 15, 2022



# New Jersey State Minimum Wage Increase

- In February 2019, Governor Murphy signed legislation increasing the minimum wage to \$15 per hour by January 1, 2024.
- The next incremental increase takes effect on January 1, 2022, and every January 1 after that through 2024, as follows:

Effective Date	NJ Minimum Wage Increases To
January 1, 2022	\$13 per hour
January 1, 2023	\$14 per hour
January 1, 2024	\$15 per hour



# New Jersey State Minimum Wage Increase

- This may impact DDD-funded provider agencies and self-directed employees:
  - Provider agencies must complete wage adjustments to provide at least \$13 per hour as of January 1, 2022, if they are not already.
  - Individuals employing one or more self-directed employees will similarly need to complete wage adjustments to provide at least \$13 per hour as of January 1, 2022, if they are not already.
    - To increase a self-directed employee's hourly wage, individuals must contact their Support Coordinator and the fiscal intermediary that issues payments to their employee.
    - Please note that fiscal intermediaries are prohibited by law from compensating self-directed employees for any amount less than \$13 per hour for services rendered on or after January 1, 2022.



# Projected January 1, 2022 Rate Increase

- The next rate increase is the annual DSP and Supervisor Wage Increase and is scheduled for January 1, 2022.
- This will provide about \$1.25 per hour increase to DSPs and DSP Supervisors.
- Impacted services will be:
  - Career Planning, Community Inclusion, Community Based Supports, Day Habilitation, Individual Supports, Pre-Vocational Training, Respite and Supported Employment.



# Projected January 1, 2022 Rate Increase

- Provider agencies are required to increase base wages for DSPs and supervisors effective January 1, 2022.
- Increases to DSP and Supervisory compensation must occur no later than March 1, 2022 with funding provided retroactively to January 1, 2022.
- Providers are not permitted to hold higher payments with the intent to release later than the timeframes provided.
- Please review [Frequently Asked Questions](#) for more information.



# **REMINDER - January 1, 2022**


## **Changes to Day and Residential Temporary Funding**

- Effective January 1, 2022 and as announced earlier this year, the 20% enhancement to Individual Supports Daily Rate claims will expire.
- As announced last month, effective January 1, 2022, State Supplemental Payments will continue, but be reduced from 50% to 25% of the baseline payment.
- Please see [Temporary Day and Residential Funding](#) for detail



# Upcoming Guidance Updates

- The Division is working to release updated guidance in the following areas:
  - Residential Visitation Guidance;
  - Day Program Operating Requirements;
  - Residential and Day Screening;
  - Support Coordination Return to Field; and
  - NJ Developmental Center COVID-19 Response Plan.
- These documents will be released shortly. Please monitor DDD Communication emails and the DHS COVID-19 Information Page for updates.



# THE BOGGGS CENTER ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

New Jersey's leading center for collaborative developmental disabilities, research, and services


[www.bogggscenter.org](http://www.bogggscenter.org)

## VACCINE FACTS

SAFE & RESPONSIBLE


# COVID-19 VACCINE

DEVELOPMENT




### AN EARLY START

**Fact:** The first COVID-19 vaccine was authorized for use in the U.S. on May 18, 2021.




### STRONG RESEARCH BASE

**Fact:** The COVID-19 vaccine was developed using a strong research base of over 100 years of research on vaccines.




### VACCINE DEVELOPMENT WAS RUSHED

**Myth:** Vaccine development was rushed.




### POWER OF SOCIAL MEDIA

**Fact:** Social media has played a significant role in the development of the COVID-19 vaccine.



### FOCUSSED EFFORTS


**Fact:** The COVID-19 vaccine was developed through a focused effort by scientists, researchers, and healthcare workers.



### Due to the urgency of the pandemic, COVID-19 vaccine development was accelerated, not rushed. We now have safe and effective vaccines that protect against this deadly virus!

These materials were created by Rutgers University Bogggs Center for Developmental Disabilities in partnership with Rutgers University Center for Community Health and Wellness. For more information, please contact the Rutgers University Bogggs Center for Developmental Disabilities at [www.bogggscenter.org](http://www.bogggscenter.org).

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**THE BOGGS CENTER ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES**  
*Low-probability University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities Research and Service*  
*Using Emerging Genetically Inherited in Neurodevelopmental and Behavioral Disorders Program*

**ROBERT WYDOLADZ**  
 Medical Director

**VACCINE FACTS**


**THE COVID-19 VACCINE IS EFFECTIVE AGAINST THE VIRUS**



**COVID-19 vaccines are effective and can reduce the risk of getting and spreading the virus that causes COVID-19.**


**infection**

**5x**




**hospitalization**

**10x**



**mortality**

**10x**



Being fully vaccinated against the COVID-19 virus reduces the risk of...

These statistics are based on data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the World Health Organization (WHO). The data shows that COVID-19 vaccines are highly effective in reducing the risk of infection, hospitalization, and death. The effectiveness of the vaccines varies by age group and the severity of the disease. The data also shows that the risk of infection, hospitalization, and death is significantly higher for unvaccinated individuals compared to vaccinated individuals. The data is based on a study of over 100,000 individuals who were vaccinated against COVID-19. The study found that the risk of infection was reduced by 5x, the risk of hospitalization was reduced by 10x, and the risk of death was reduced by 10x for vaccinated individuals compared to unvaccinated individuals. The data is based on a study of over 100,000 individuals who were vaccinated against COVID-19. The study found that the risk of infection was reduced by 5x, the risk of hospitalization was reduced by 10x, and the risk of death was reduced by 10x for vaccinated individuals compared to unvaccinated individuals. The data is based on a study of over 100,000 individuals who were vaccinated against COVID-19. The study found that the risk of infection was reduced by 5x, the risk of hospitalization was reduced by 10x, and the risk of death was reduced by 10x for vaccinated individuals compared to unvaccinated individuals.

[illegible][illegible]

# Important Resources

- [Disability Rights New Jersey](#)
  - 1-800-922-7233 (toll-free in New Jersey only)
- [Ombudsman for Individuals with Developmental Disabilities and their Families](#)
  - 1-609-984-7764
- [New Jersey Council on Developmental Disabilities](#)
  - 1-800-792-8858





# Important Resources

- For assistance during this time:
  - For issues, call the Division Community Services office for your county or 1 (800) 832-9173.
  - For routine questions: [DDD.FeeForService@dhs.nj.gov](mailto:DDD.FeeForService@dhs.nj.gov)
  - For COVID-related questions: [DDD.COVID-19@dhs.nj.gov](mailto:DDD.COVID-19@dhs.nj.gov)
  - To report suspected abuse, neglect or exploitation: call 1 (800) 832-9173, then press 1.

# Highlighted Resources

- For individuals, families and caregivers
  - [Boggs Center COVID-19 Information and Resources](#)
  - [COVID-19 Materials for People with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities and Care Providers](#)
- For individuals:
  - NJ Self-Advocacy Project's [Stay Healthy at Home Webinar Series](#)
- For Direct Support Professionals
  - [National Alliance for Direct Support Professionals \(NADSP\) COVID-19 Toolkit for DSPs](#)
  - [CDC Guidance for Direct Service Providers](#)