

# The New Jersey Department of Human Services **Division of Developmental Disabilities**

1

## CORONAVIRUS DISEASE (COVID-19) UPDATE FOR FAMILIES AND PROVIDERS

June 11, 2020



# THANK YOU!

2

A special **THANK YOU** to our  
**HEROES** in this trying time!

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- Direct Support Professionals-
- Self-Directed Employees-
- Support Coordinators-
- Individuals/Families-
- Providers-



Emotional Support During COVID-19 Outbreak  
Get Help Now: 866-202-HELP (4357)

E-mail: [help@njmentalhealthcares.org](mailto:help@njmentalhealthcares.org)

## ***NJ Mental Health Cares***

If you're concerned about your mental health or the mental health of someone you love, **NJ Mental Health Cares** can help. The **free helpline** offers telephone counseling, emotional support, information and assistance.

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**866-202-HELP (4357)**

7 days per week, 8am - 8pm

New  Jersey  
**MentalHealthCares**  
New Jersey's Behavioral Health and Referral Service



# Today's Webinar Will Provide Information on...

4

- State and DDD-Specific COVID-19 Statistics
- Day and Residential Providers
- FEMA Reimbursement
- Federal Provider Relief Fund
- Stage 2 Update
- Re-Opening Workgroup
- COVID-19 Testing
- Communication
- Resources



# New Jersey COVID-19 Current Statistics\*

5

State of New Jersey	
Positive	165,346
Deaths	12,377

*\*This update is as of 5:00 p.m., Wednesday, June 10, 2020.*

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

# DDD Specific COVID-19 Statistics\*

6

	Community		Developmental Centers	Total
	Licensed	Other		
Positive	584	258	414	1,256
Deaths	51	82	32	165

*\*DDD specific statistics are updated every Monday. Information is based on incident reporting data entered at time of publication.*

*Community data includes settings such as group homes, supervised apartments, own home settings, nursing facilities, etc. Full detail available at <https://nj.gov/humanservices/coronavirus.html>.*



# Day and Residential Providers

7

- Residential support remains unchanged.
  - [www.nj.gov/humanservices/ddd/documents/covid19-temporary-residential-funding.pdf](http://www.nj.gov/humanservices/ddd/documents/covid19-temporary-residential-funding.pdf)
- Day retainer payments extended through June 26, 2020.
  - [www.nj.gov/humanservices/ddd/documents/covid19-temporary-day-funding.pdf](http://www.nj.gov/humanservices/ddd/documents/covid19-temporary-day-funding.pdf)

# Day and Residential Providers

8

- Congregate DDD Day Programs remain closed.
- Some **Non**-DDD Day Programs are Re-opening.
  - As when DDD Day Programs re-open, a person-centered approach should be used.
  - Planning team, including guardian, should meet to discuss, with a focus on health and safety.



# FEMA Reimbursement

9

- Category B – Emergency Protective Measures.
- Some not-for-profits may be eligible for 75% reimbursement of COVID-19 related costs.
  - <https://njemgrants.org/site/COVID-19%20PA%20Info.cfm>.
- Review DR 4488 Public Assistance Applicant Briefing and other pertinent documents.

# FEMA Reimbursement

10

- Must have receipts and meet eligibility criteria.
- Minimum amount is \$3,300.
- Apply directly with NJ Emergency Management.
- Complete a Request for Public Assistance application at <https://njemgrants.org/>.
- There is no current deadline.

# FEMA Reimbursement



**FEMA**

**Public Assistance  
Training Webinars**

Public Assistance  
Training Section

**June 8-12, 2020**

## **Grants Portal Applicant Basics [Applicant Basics]**

- Register and set up a new Grants Portal account
- Submit a Request for Public Assistance (RPA)
- Upload documents and create tiles

## **COVID-19 Application Overview [COVID-19]**

- COVID-19 process flow
- Streamlined Project Application in Grants Portal
- COVID-19 documentation and forms

**ALL OFFERINGS ARE LISTED IN EASTERN DAYLIGHT TIME (EDT)**

Times* (EDT)	Dates Offered					Webinar	Meeting Information (approximately one hour each)
	6/8	6/9	6/10	6/11	6/12		
2:00 PM EDT	●		●		●	Applicant Basics	<a href="https://fema.zoomgov.com/j/1615279340">https://fema.zoomgov.com/j/1615279340</a> Meeting ID: 161 527 9340 Password: 564786
4:00 PM EDT	●	●	●	●	●	COVID-19	<a href="https://fema.zoomgov.com/j/1603915247">https://fema.zoomgov.com/j/1603915247</a> Meeting ID: 160 391 5247 Password: 572060
7:00 PM EDT		●				Applicant Basics	<a href="https://fema.zoomgov.com/j/1614137342">https://fema.zoomgov.com/j/1614137342</a> Meeting ID: 161 413 7342 Password: 564786
7:00 PM EDT				●		COVID-19	<a href="https://fema.zoomgov.com/j/1618646414">https://fema.zoomgov.com/j/1618646414</a> Meeting ID: 161 864 6414 Password: 572060

# FEMA Reimbursement

12

- Webinar specifically for DHS vendors:
  - Friday, June 19, 2020
    - ✦ 11 AM and 4 PM
- No pre-registration is required. Use this link to join the webinar at 11 AM and/or 4 PM:  
<https://share.dhs.gov/fema-public-assistance-orientation/>

# Federal Provider Relief Fund

13

- On June 9, the federal Department of Health and Human Services released information on the Provider Relief Fund.
  - <https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/USCMSMEDI/CAID/bulletins/28fd559>
- Assists Medicaid providers impacted by COVID-19.
- Providers are urged to review and apply, if eligible.
  - <https://www.hhs.gov/coronavirus/cares-act-provider-relief-fund/general-information/index.html>

**!! - Time sensitive - !!**

# Stage 2 Update

14

- Entering Stage 2 of Restart and Recovery
  - State of Emergency is still in place.
  - Clinically high-risk individuals who can stay at home should continue to do so.
  - Masking and Social Distancing still in place.
- Visitation
  - Update to visitation for provider-managed settings is in review, will identify incremental adjustments.
  - Will release after Re-Opening Workgroup reviews.
  - Masking and Social Distancing will remain in place.

# Re-Opening Workgroup

15

- DHS/DDD has convened a workgroup to discuss re-opening of congregate day programs and other areas.
  - First meeting was June 4, 2020.
- Charge is to develop recommendations and guidelines that can be used by individuals, families and agencies to inform re-opening.

# Re-Opening Workgroup

16

- Recommendations/Guidelines for:
  - The Now – Day programs remain closed for the moment.
    - ✦ What guidance can be provided to ensure meaningful engagement in day activities provided in a home setting (own home or other)?



# Re-Opening Workgroup

17

- Recommendations/Guidelines for:
  - Pre-Opening – How can families and agencies prepare for the re-opening of congregate day services?
    - ✦ For families, what are some things to consider when deciding on return?
    - ✦ For agencies, what needs to be done to ascertain demand and prepare for screening, social distancing, transportation, etc.?

# Re-Opening Workgroup

18

- Recommendations/Guidelines for:
  - Soft Opening – How to operationalize the work done for pre-opening?
    - ✦ Implementation of screening.
    - ✦ What do to if someone presents with symptoms at program?
    - ✦ What to do if someone tests positive?

# Re-Opening Workgroup

19

- Recommendations/Guidelines for:
  - Ramp up and moving to full capacity – While when this will happen is unclear, what are the milestones to determine when additional individuals can be served?

# Re-Opening Workgroup

20

- Recommendations/Guidelines for:
  - If there is a return of the virus, what adjustments can be made?
    - ✦ What can be done to ramp down attendance if there are hot-spots?
    - ✦ Alternate communication strategies.
    - ✦ What are the lessons learned from the closure process and experience?

# Re-Opening Workgroup Membership

21

- Five Service Providers
  - Laura Williams - Arc of Ocean County
    - ✦ Day Services – Facility based and Community Day Hab; Supported Employment; In-home services; Residential Services; Support Coordination.
  - Svetlana Repic-Qira - Community Options
    - ✦ Day Services – Facility based and Community Based Day Hab; Employment services; In-home services; Residential Services.
    - ✦ Medically fragile day programs.

# Re-Opening Workgroup Membership

22

- Joanna Miller - Department for Persons with Disabilities
  - ✦ Day Services – Facility based; Residential Services; Support Coordination.
- David Mock - PrimeTime Centers
  - ✦ Day Only Provider – Facility based and Community Based Day Hab; Pre-Vocational Services.
- Reggie Neal - United Cerebral Palsy Hudson County
  - ✦ Day Only Provider – Facility Based; Special Needs; Aftercare Respite; In-home respite.

# Re-Opening Workgroup Membership

23

- Five Advocates

- Margaret Gilbride - The Boggs Center on Developmental Disabilities
  - ✦ New Jersey's federally designated University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities, Education, Research and Service.
  - ✦ Provides community training and technical assistance in transition to adult life, employment and community living.
- Eileen Hurley – Family member; Chair of DDD Family Advisory Council; Chair of Regional Family Support Planning Councils.



# Re-Opening Workgroup Membership

24

- Mercedes Witowsky – NJ Council on Developmental Disabilities
  - ✦ Federally designated agency empowering individuals with intellectual/developmental disabilities and their families.
  - ✦ Supports People First and Regional Family Support Planning Councils; Advocates; Collaborates; Educates.
- Carolyn Hayer - Family member; DDD Family Advisory Council member; State Rehabilitation Council member; SPAN - NJ's federally funded parent training & information center; Boards of DRNJ & The Arc of NJ.
- Renee Pierce - Self-Advocate
  - ✦ Receives services from an impacted agency.





# COVID-19 Testing

25

- Testing continues to be available.
- Residents and staff of congregate settings like group homes should get tested.
- Research local options before going for a test.
- Standing Order remains in place.
  - [https://www.state.nj.us/health/legal/covid19/05-12-2020\\_StandingOrder\\_COVID19testing.pdf](https://www.state.nj.us/health/legal/covid19/05-12-2020_StandingOrder_COVID19testing.pdf).

# COVID-19 Testing

26

- Rite Aid

- Review requirements and schedule a test at <https://www.riteaid.com/pharmacy/services/covid-19-testing>.

- CVS

- Review requirements and schedule a test at <https://www.cvs.com/minuteclinic/covid-19-testing>

# COVID-19 Testing

27

- Additional Testing Sites:
  - There are multiple testing sites across NJ and new sites have been added.
  - Some have residency and appointment scheduling requirements.
  - Website can be found at <https://covid19.nj.gov/testing>.

# Communication

28

- **Agency Communication**

- Providers should be communicating with the families of their residents. Examples include:
  - ✦ General updates;
  - ✦ What outings are scheduled?;
  - ✦ What the plan would be if someone tests positive for COVID-19?;
  - ✦ Isolation space.

# Important Resources

29

- NJ Department of Health:  
[nj.gov/health/cd/topics/ncov.shtml](https://nj.gov/health/cd/topics/ncov.shtml)  
24-Hour Hotline: 1-800-222-1222
- NJ Department of Human Services COVID-19 Information:  
[nj.gov/humanservices/coronavirus.html](https://nj.gov/humanservices/coronavirus.html)
- Contact Information for local health departments in NJ:  
[localhealth.nj.gov](https://localhealth.nj.gov)
- Contact Information for County OEM Coordinators in NJ:  
[ready.nj.gov/about-us/county-coordinators.shtml](https://ready.nj.gov/about-us/county-coordinators.shtml)

# Important Resources

30

- For assistance during this time:
  - For vital issues, call the Division Community Services office for your county or 1.800.832.9173.
  - When calling, you will be connected with the Division's answering service who will take information about the circumstance and have a Division staff person reach out.
  - For routine questions: [DDD.FeeForService@dhs.nj.gov](mailto:DDD.FeeForService@dhs.nj.gov).
  - For COVID-19 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

31

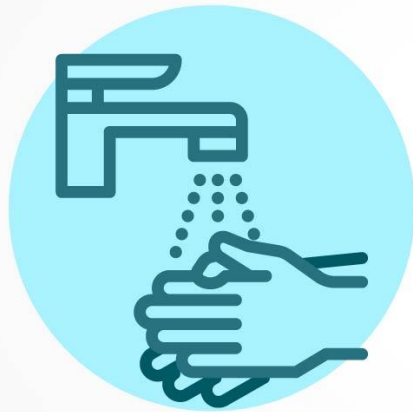
- For parents and families
  - Mom-2-Mom Helpline: [mom2mom.us.com/](https://mom2mom.us.com/) or 877.914-6662
- For individuals and caregivers
  - Boggs Center COVID-19 Information and Resources: [rwjms.rutgers.edu/boggscenter/links/COVID-19Resources.html](https://rwjms.rutgers.edu/boggscenter/links/COVID-19Resources.html)
- For Direct Support Professionals
  - National Alliance for Direct Support Professionals (NADSP) COVID-19 Toolkit for DSPs: [nadsp.org/covid-19resources/](https://nadsp.org/covid-19resources/)

# And Remember...

32

## FOLLOW THESE SIMPLE STEPS TO **STAY HEALTHY**

**WASH** YOUR  
HANDS



**COVER** YOUR  
COUGH



**STAY HOME**  
WHEN SICK



#PREVENTCORONAVIRUS