

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

1

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

October 29, 2020



THANK YOU!

2

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

Today's Webinar Will Provide Information on...

3

- State and DDD-Specific COVID-19 Statistics
- November Webinars
- 5-Year NJCAT Reassessments and Other Information.
- Electronic Visit Verification (EVV)
- Residential Surge Planning
- Day Services Update
- Coronavirus Relief Funding
- COVID-19 Screening Tool Update
- Developmental Center Website Updates
- Voting Resources
- Fight the Flu!
- Resources



New Jersey COVID-19 Current Statistics*

4

State of New Jersey	
Positive	232,997
Deaths	14,531

**This update is as of Wednesday, October 28, 2020.*

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

DDD Specific COVID-19 Statistics*

5

	Community		Developmental Centers	Total
	Licensed	Own Home		
Positive	724	156	471	1,351
Deaths	58	32	40	130

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](#).

NJ Interim COVID-19 Vaccination Plan

6

- On October 26, Governor Murphy distributed a press release related to COVID-19.
- The release provided New Jersey's Interim COVID-19 Vaccination Plan.
- New Jersey is adopting a methodical and deliberate approach to a vaccination plan and will not simply rush forward.
- Stakeholders are invited to review this information, as well as the corresponding FAQ and Executive Summary.



DDD November Webinar Schedule

7

- November update webinars:
 - FRIDAY, November 13, 2020 – 10:30 am
 - WEDNESDAY, November 25, 2020 – 10:30 am
- Register once for November webinars:
<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/8936350433937692939>

5-Year NJCAT Reassessments

8

- DHS/DDD listened to stakeholder feedback and has completed a review of the mandatory 5-Year NJCAT reassessment.
 - DHS/DDD has determined that, since review of an individual's needs occurs during the annual Individualized Service Plan (ISP) review/renewal, **the previously-mandated 5-year NJCAT reassessment does not need to occur.**
 - This change will take effect in DDD's iRecord effective November 1, 2020.
 - **NJCAT reassessments can still occur upon request.**
 - Initial NJCAT assessments will continue to occur at time of intake with DDD.



Electronic Visit Verification (EVV)

9

- Section 12006(a) of the federal 21st Century Cures Act mandates that states implement electronic visit verification (EVV) for all Medicaid personal care services and home health services that require an in-home visit by a provider.
- The 21st Century Cures Act requires compliance by States by January 1, 2021.

Electronic Visit Verification (EVV)

10

- For individuals with intellectual/developmental disabilities, EVV mandate applies to both provider-managed and self-directed services, including:
 - Services received in any of the Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD) self-direction models.
 - Services received in the Personal Preference Program, which is administered by the Division of Medical Assistance and Health Services (DMAHS).
- Stakeholder workgroups have begun meeting to discuss implementation. More information and EVV training will be made available.



Electronic Visit Verification (EVV)

11

DDD-funded services that will require EVV

Service	Procedure Code	Unit	Additional Descriptor
Community Based Supports	H2021HI	15 minutes	Base
Community Based Supports	H2021HI22	15 minutes	Acuity
Community Based Supports	H2021HI52	15 minutes	Self-Directed Employee
Individual Supports	H2016HI	15 minutes	Base
Individual Supports	H2016HI22	15 minutes	Base with Acuity
Individual Supports	H2016HIU8	15 minutes	Self-Directed Employee
In-Home Respite	T1005HI	15 minutes	Base
In-Home Respite	T1005HIU8	15 minutes	Self-Directed Employee

Residential Surge Planning

12

- DHS/DDD are requiring all residences licensed under NJAC 10:44A and C (Group homes and Brain Injury Programs) to engage in COVID-19 Surge Planning.
- Many agencies have some level of planning in place, but it is important for the health and safety of residents and staff that best practices be applied uniformly across the system.

Residential Surge Planning

13

- Surge Plan shall include:
 - Overview of Residential Operations.
 - Established Screening, Symptom Monitoring and Testing Protocols.
 - Identification of Alternate Settings.
 - Staff Training.
- An Attestation is required by November 20, 2020.

Residential Surge Planning

14

- Residential Agencies are directed to have a plan to accommodate at least 10% of their total residential population in alternate settings.
- It is acceptable to isolate within the residence when the alternate space is not available or it is otherwise unsafe to move the individual. However, identification of alternate settings is required.

Residential Surge Planning

15

- Surge Plan must be provided to DHS upon request and will be reviewed, at a minimum, during regular licensing inspections.
- Please see the following documents for more information:
 - [COVID-19 Surge Planning for Residential Providers.](#)
 - [Use of Day Program Sites, Unlicensed Homes and Apartments, and Hotels/Motels as Temporary Surge Planning Space.](#)
 - [Provider Attestation for Residential Surge Planning.](#)

Day Services Update

16

- Presently, about 205 day programs have re-opened at reduced capacity.
- 11 programs have reported positivity in at least one staff or participant. Multiple sites have voluntarily closed.
- Day providers are required to notify staff and participants.

Coronavirus Relief Funding

17

- On October 19, an opportunity for funding was released to reimburse certain providers for specific COVID-19 related expenses.
- Eligible DDD providers are:
 - Licensed developmental disability and traumatic brain injury group homes; and
 - Developmental disability facility-based day programs that were required to close during the pandemic and submitted their re-opening Attestation by October 23, 2020.



Coronavirus Relief Funding

18

- Eligible expenses are:
 - Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)
 - ✦ Face Masks: Surgical Masks, N95s and equivalent respirators;
 - ✦ Face Shields;
 - ✦ Gowns;
 - ✦ Gloves; and
 - ✦ Goggles.

Coronavirus Relief Funding

19

- Eligible expenses are:
 - Cleaning and Infection Control
 - ✦ **Extra** materials and supplies used for enhanced cleaning as a result of prevention and response to COVID-19.
 - ✦ Partitions, plexiglass dividers.

Coronavirus Relief Funding

20

- Eligible expenses are:
 - HIPAA-compliant technology for remote services:
 - ✦ Community Provider Agencies may be reimbursed for hardware and software purchased to enable services to be provided remotely.
 - Video communication products that are HIPAA compliant with corresponding BAA;
 - HIPAA compliant (with a signed BAA) contracted information technology services used to enable remote service delivery.
 - Devices for individuals are not eligible for reimbursement.

Coronavirus Relief Funding

21

- For more information, please review:
 - Information Regarding Coronavirus Relief Funding Available for Community Providers for COVID-Eligible Expenses.
 - ✦ Guidance
 - ✦ Provider Attestation
 - ✦ Voucher Worksheet
 - ✦ Voucher

Screening Tool Update

22

- The Division's Residential and Day Program Screening Policy has been updated.
- Changes include:
 - Update based on New Jersey Department of Health COVID-19 Guidance for Reopening Childcare – Specifically, a 10 day participant exclusion based on the presence of certain symptoms.
 - Update based on recent CDC guidance on exposure. Specifically exposure in minutes is now cumulative and not consecutive.

Developmental Centers

23

- The Division has updated the Developmental Centers websites and added the following:
 - A COVID-19 Response Plan to describe center practices related to COVID-19;
 - Status of visitation;
 - How to schedule a visit (remote or otherwise);
 - How to contact the center.

Developmental Centers

24

- Websites are as follows:
 - Developmental Centers Home Page
 - Green Brook Regional Center
 - Hunterdon
 - New Lisbon
 - Vineland
 - Woodbine

Voting Resources

25

- Download *Voting, It's Your Right*, a guide about voting rights and the voting process in NJ, by visiting The Boggs Center's [Voting, It's Your Right](#) webpage.



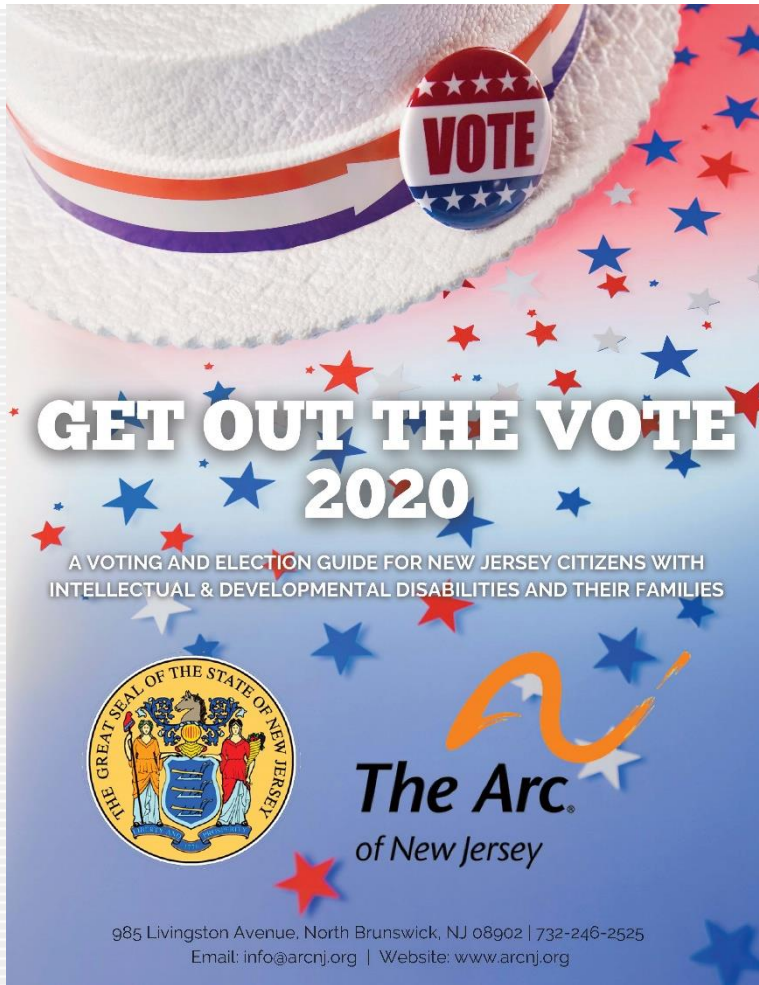
Division of
Developmental
Disabilities



Voting Resources

26

- Download The Arc of NJ's voting and election guide, *Get Out The Vote (GOTV) 2020*, and find other voting resources for people with I/DD and their families at [GOTV 2020](#)



Voting Resources

27

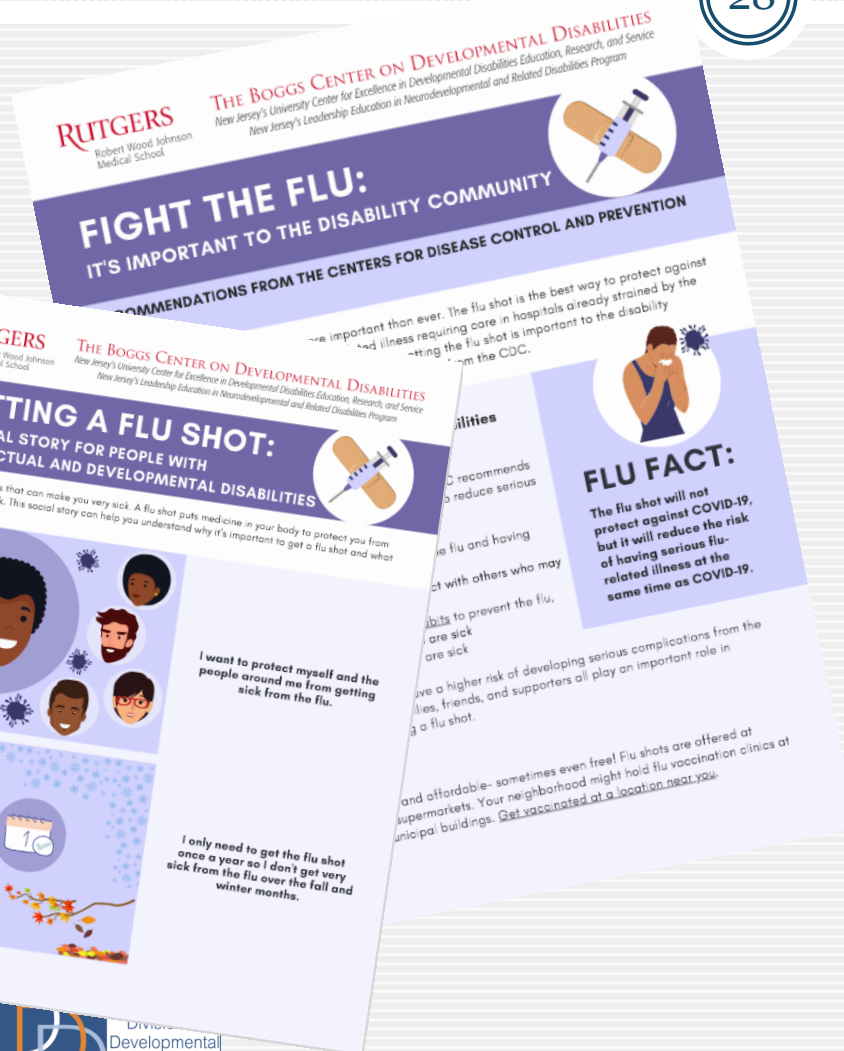
- Disability Rights New Jersey (DRNJ) has free voting resources available for individuals with I/DD, families and organizations:
 - ✦ **Staff Trainings** for organizations serving I/DD communities, both residential and community-based.
 - ✦ **Voting Presentations** for families of people with I/DD.
 - ✦ **Accessible Voting Resources** for those with I/DD.
 - ✦ **Voter Question Hotline:** 1.866.493.0023 | voterhotline@drnj.org (operating during regular business hours and 7AM to 8PM on Election Day).
- To reach DRNJ about voting resources, please contact aparente@drnj.org.

Fight the Flu

28

Fight the Flu Fact Sheet & Social Story

Available on
The Boggs Center's [Fight
the Flu](#) website.



Important Resources

29

- NJ Department of Health
24-Hour Hotline: 1.800.222.1222
- NJ Department of Human Services COVID-19 Information
- Contact information for Local Health Departments in NJ
- Contact information for County OEM Coordinators in NJ

Important Resources

30

- For assistance during this time:
 - For 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
 - For COVID-related questions: 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 individuals, families and caregivers
 - [Boggs Center COVID-19 Information and Resources](#)
- 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](#)