

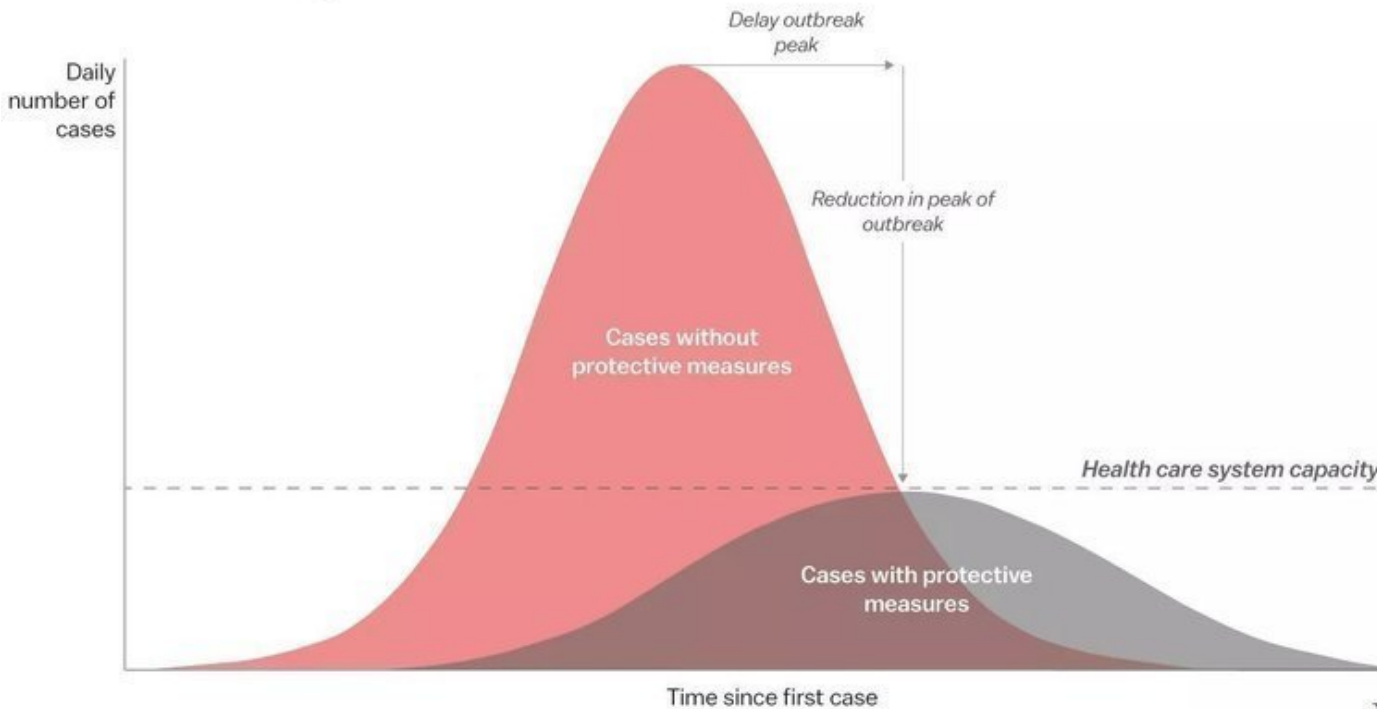
# **ODP Update for Community Participation Support Providers: Coronavirus (COVID-19)**

**March 17, 2020**

Kristin Ahrens, Deputy Secretary

# Everyone has a responsibility to slow the spread

## Flattening the curve



## **Statewide Suspension of ODP Functions**

### **Effective March 17, 2020**

- Supports Intensity Scale (SIS) and PA Supplement Assessments
- Quality Assessment and Improvement (QA&I) Provider and SCO Corrective Action Plans (CAPS) and Directive Corrective Action Plans (DCAPS) activities (unless otherwise instructed by ODP or the Administrative Entity)
- Communication Assessments and Reassessments related to the Harry M Settlement
- Annual licensing inspections as specified at 55 Pa.Code § 20.31. (relating to Annual Inspection).
- Independent Monitoring for Quality (IM4Q) interviews

## **Statewide Required Closures of Day Program Facilities**

- Older Adult Day facilities licensed under 6 Pa. Code Chapter 11
- Adult Training Facilities licensed under 55 Pa. Code Chapter 2380
- Prevocational Facilities licensed under 55 Pa. Code Chapter 2390

**Closures are effective Tuesday, March 17, 2020 and are in effect until further notice.**

## **Community Participation Support/Day Habilitation Providers – Time in Community Effective March 6, 2020**

- Suspend the requirement that providers support each individual at least 25% of time in community
- For ID/A waivers, ISP Teams do not need to complete variances when individuals will not spend 25% of their time in the community on average per month during this time.
- May continue to provide CPS within parameters established by both President and Governor (“social/physical distancing” guidelines – example, walk in neighborhood)

# Pending Policy Changes Needed to Support Response

## ODP ID/A Waivers – Appendix K Submission

- Utilized by the state during emergency situations to request amendment to its approved waiver. It includes actions that states can take under the existing Section 1915(c) home and community-based waiver authority in order to respond to an emergency.

## Regulatory Waivers

- DHS exploring options related to waiving requirements necessary to respond to the emergency.



## CPS Suspensions and Closures Part of Two-Fold Response Strategy

- Stop the spread of COVID19
- **Redeploy staff** with ID/A experience and training where needed for essential functions
  - Staff qualified under any service definition in the ID/A waivers may be used for provision of any non-professional service under another service definition the ID/A waivers. Professional services exempt from this include: Supports Coordination, Therapy Services, Behavioral Support, Consultative Nutritional Services, Music Therapy, Art Therapy and Equine Assisted Therapy and Shift Nursing
  - **All staff must receive training on any participants' ISPs for whom they are providing support.** Training on the ISP must consist of basic health and safety support needs for that individual, including but not limited to the fatal four
  - Encourage use of remote training and nurse support to respond to rapid changes

## Staff Redeployment (cont.)

- CPS may be provided in private homes
- In-home/alternate provision of the day service by facility staff when family caregiver employed in essential roles like healthcare, first responders or human services and reliant on CPS for coverage during work.
- For CPS providers who have residential, companion or in-home support service offerings, prepare to redeploy staff from facilities to fill other essential staffing needs.
- ODP encourages providers that *only* offer Community Participation Supports to contact other provider agencies and develop cooperative arrangements to supply staff to support participants in other service areas like residential, companion, or in-home support.



## Staff Redeployment (cont.)

- For non-facility based CPS providers, please prepare to redeploy CPS staff to support essential supports for health and safety within your own agency or through cooperative agreements with other provider agencies.
- *On-call and Remote Support services* can be used to promote health and safety of CPS service recipients, when at home and not receiving another service. CPS providers should work with ISP Teams to coordinate details. Additional guidance will be provided.
- Closures of facilities covered under this guidance do not need to be reported through the Enterprise Incident Management (EIM) system.

## **Billing**

- Waiver of Prudent Pay beginning pay cycle 3/21/2020
- ODP establishing protocols and will provide guidance by 3/25
  - Retainer payments for CPS providers
  - COVID19 related change in service provision (private home, staffing ratio)

## **Plan Changes**

- Guidance on plan changes/authorizations will be provided in near future
- Maintain clear documentation/records

## **COVID-19 Provider Information Tool**

- Designed to gather service specific information about COVID-19 impact on providers
- Purpose:
  - collect information about potential risk/service closures that will help guide future decision making.
  - create a record for the purposes of retroactive approvals, documentation and payments.
- The tool was designed to take approximately 7-10 minutes to complete.
- Once complete, an email will also be sent to the provider for your record.
- ODP suggest maintaining this information in your records.
- Link to the online tool -  
<https://www.questionpro.com/t/AJrvGZgvm4>

## Communication is Key

- *If staff or a person for whom you provide services is suspected to have COVID-19 or tests presumptively positive for COVID-19, please notify the **ODP Regulatory Administration Unit** at [RA-PW6100REGADMIN@pa.gov](mailto:RA-PW6100REGADMIN@pa.gov).*
- For ODP to be responsive to the needs related to COVID-19, timely information from the provider community is essential. Providers should follow Department of Health (DOH) guidance for evaluation, testing, and reporting related to staff or a beneficiary suspected of having COVID-19.

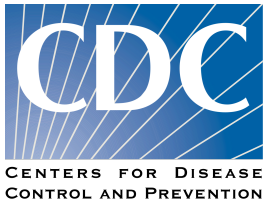
**Questions? Call 1-877-PA-HEALTH (1-877-724-3258)**



## Emergency warning signs for COVID-19

- If you develop emergency warning signs for COVID-19 get medical attention immediately. Emergency warning signs include\*:
  - Difficulty breathing or shortness of breath
  - Persistent pain or pressure in the chest
  - New confusion or inability to arouse
  - Bluish lips or face
  
- \*This list is not all inclusive.

## Resources



<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>



<https://www.health.pa.gov/topics/disease/Pages/Coronavirus.aspx>



<https://www.dhs.pa.gov/providers/Providers/Pages/Coronavirus-2020.aspx>



<https://www.myodp.org/mod/page/view.php?id=26808>