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DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

Office of Developmental Programs Coronavirus (COVID-19) Update The Provider Alliance

April 3, 2020

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ODP's Approach

1. Slow the spread of the virus
2. Use trained direct support professionals where needed most
3. Long term stability of community system
4. Resources and communication

Emergency Preparedness and Response Policy

Waiver Changes

- ODP submitted emergency amendments to the Consolidated, P/FDS, Community Living and Adult Autism Waivers.
- Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) CMS approved all emergency applications on 3/18/2020
- ODP drafting 2nd Appendix K emergency amendments
  - Clarifications/corrections
  - Qualifications – Modified Medication Administration Course
  - Individual monitoring
  - Annual plan extensions
  - Signature requirements

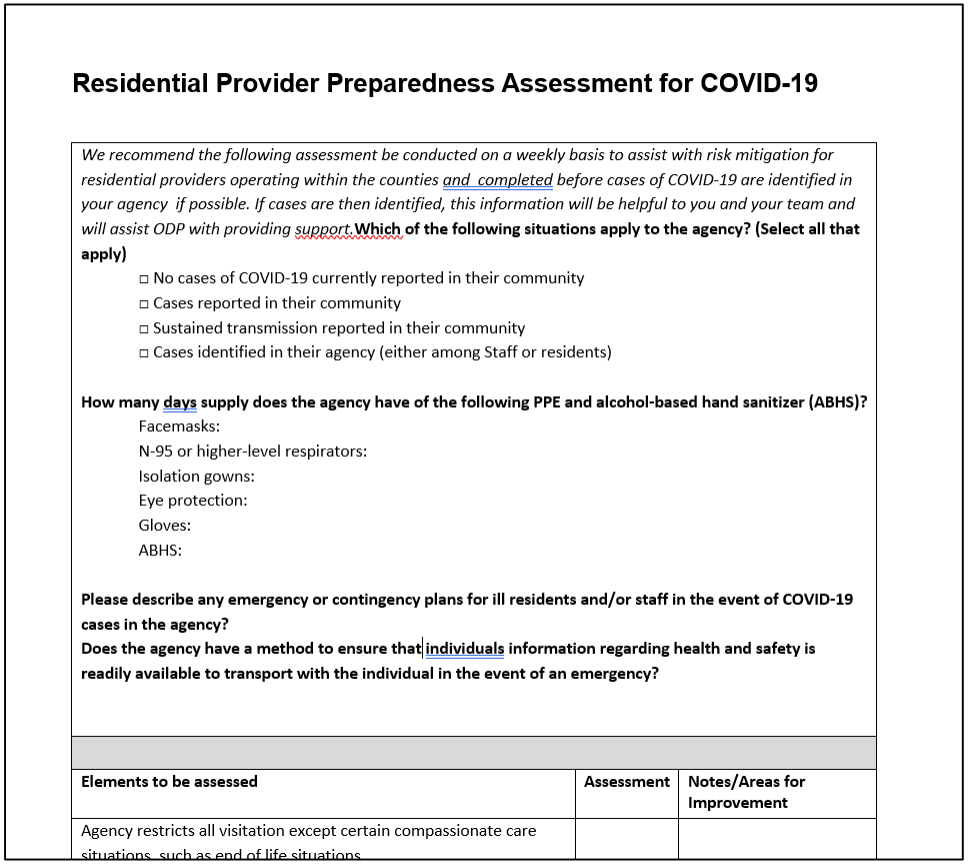
Emergency Preparedness and Response Policy (cont.)

Regulatory Changes

- ODP is working on suspensions, partial suspensions of numerous related regulations to ensure providers can respond appropriately to the emergency
  - Program regulations 6100
  - Licensing regulations 2380, 2390, 6400, 6500
  - ICF regulations

Readiness

- Provider Readiness Assessment
- Weekly provider calls with Administrative Entities
- Real-time vacancy tracking
- Resource bundle, webinars for individuals and families



Residential Provider Preparedness Assessment for COVID-19

We recommend the following assessment be conducted on a weekly basis to assist with risk mitigation for residential providers operating within the counties and completed before cases of COVID-19 are identified in your agency if possible. If cases are then identified, this information will be helpful to you and your team and will assist ODP with providing support. **Which of the following situations apply to the agency? (Select all that apply)**

- □ No cases of COVID-19 currently reported in their community
- □ Cases reported in their community
- □ Sustained transmission reported in their community
- □ Cases identified in their agency (either among Staff or residents)

How many days supply does the agency have of the following PPE and alcohol-based hand sanitizer (ABHS)?

- Facemasks:
- N-95 or higher-level respirators:
- Isolation gowns:
- Eye protection:
- Gloves:
- ABHS:

Please describe any emergency or contingency plans for ill residents and/or staff in the event of COVID-19 cases in the agency?

Does the agency have a method to ensure that individuals information regarding health and safety is readily available to transport with the individual in the event of an emergency?

Elements to be assessed	Assessment	Notes/Areas for Improvement
Agency restricts all visitation except certain compassionate care situations, such as end of life situations		

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Readiness and Response

- Communication 20-037 - Immediate reporting of COVID-19 in Incident Management System
- The requirement to report incidents of COVID-19 diagnosis extends to all individuals, regardless of service provision at the time of the incident.
- Continue to report changes in service provision through the Provider COVID-19 Information Survey Tool https://www.questionpro.com/t/AJrvGZgvm4
- ODP will publish additional response tools
  - ODP/AE follow-up positive cases
  - Guidance for community homes

Additional Retainers

- Conducting analysis on Supported Employment, Small Group Employment, In-Home and Community, Companion and Transportation Trip
- Providers should note that Congress has appropriated significant funds to make up for lost provider revenue.
- **Strongly encourage providers to examine the various resources that are available for businesses impacted by COVID-19.**
  - U.S. Small Business Administration https://covid19relief.sba.gov/#/,
  - Pennsylvania Industrial Development Authority's (PIDA) Small Business First Fund, the COVID-19 Working Capital Access Program (CWCA https://dced.pa.gov/

Visitation Policy Changes

- Long Term Care Facility (LTCF) Visitation Guidance from CMS and the Centers for Disease Control
- Non-medically necessary visits may be restricted
- Providers must
  - Comply with Governor's Executive Orders,
  - Comply with ODP instruction and
  - ***exercise decision-making based on risk to each individual in each home***
- Providers must make every effort to support contact and relationships between individuals, friends, family
  - Using telephone or video technology
  - Mail, recordings, etc
  - Contact through barriers

Temporary Relocations

- Family may bring individual home during the emergency
  - No loss of waiver
  - No loss of the community home
  - Provider may choose to accept the return of individual only after the emergency.
- Providers may need to relocate individuals for quarantine, isolation or to ensure staffing

Focus on Wellness During The Emergency

- Supports Coordinators asked to implement wellness checks weekly – special attention to adults who live on their own
- Community Participation Support providers have been asked to provide support/structured activities/remote
- Remote behavior support
- Resources on MyODP and ASERT websites
- Warm line NEW!

- Culturally competent
- Skilled at assisting those with ID/A
- Use principles of trauma-informed care to listen, assess needs, triage calls, and provide appropriate referral

Toll-free, round-the-clock support line 1-855-284-2494. For TTY, dial 724-631-5600.

Coordination of Emergency Response

- Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency (PEMA)
  - Notify your local EMA of Confirmed Cases
- PEMA coordinates with FEMA
- Department of Health
- “Disability Integration” Coordination
  - Needs of LTSS and HCBS

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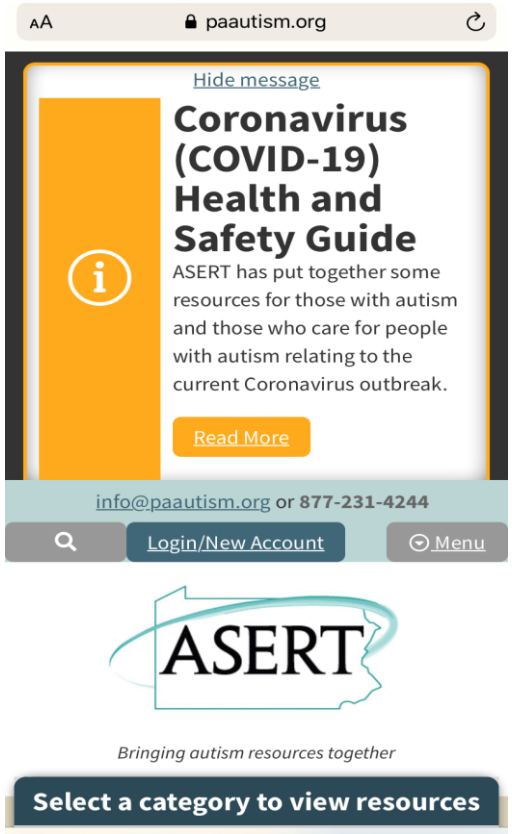

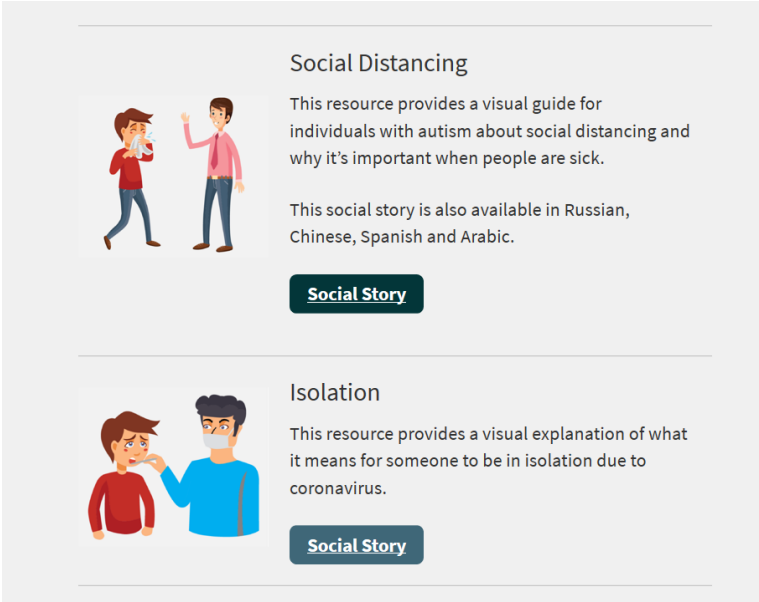

www.Paautism.org

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www.MyODP.org

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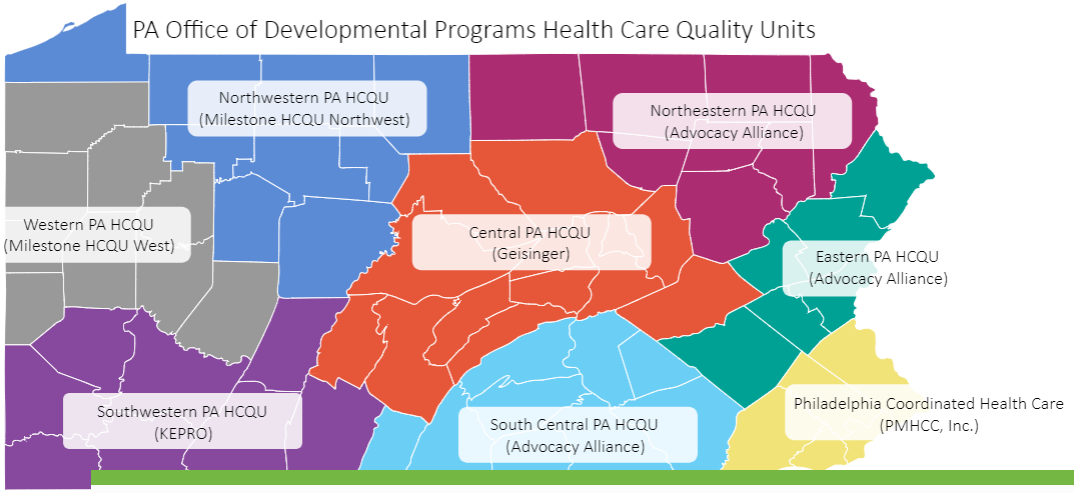
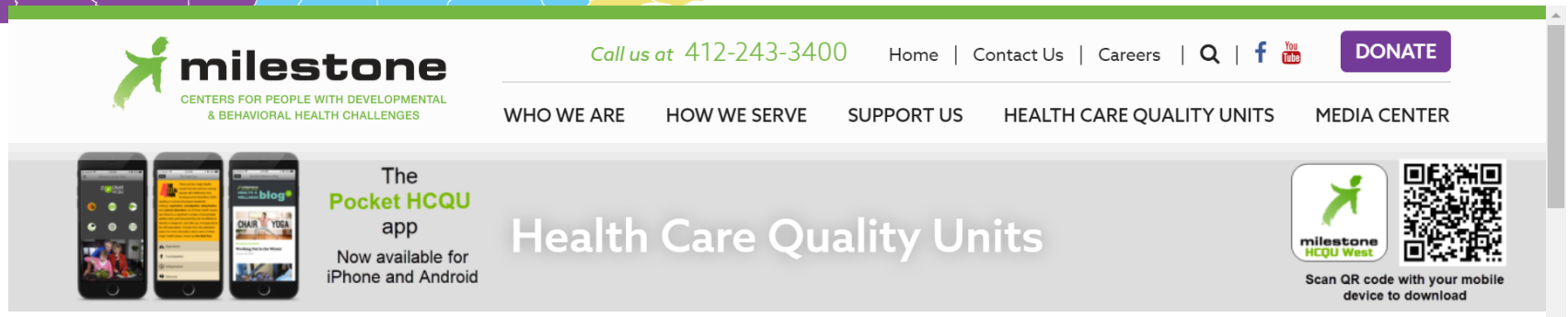
Health Care Quality Units

The Health Care Quality Units (HCQUs) work to support and improve the health information and knowledge for the intellectual disabilities community service system by building capacity and competency within the physical and behavioral health care systems as well as the stakeholders of the ID system.

There are eight HCQUs across Pennsylvania. See Map:





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