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LYNN T. BESHEAR
COMMISSIONER

TO: DDD PROVIDER NETWORK
FROM: Division of Developmental Disabilities
RE: Response to COVID-19 (rel12)
DATE: 5/15/20

The ADMH Division of Developmental Disabilities is dedicated to supporting the safety and health of Alabamians with intellectual and developmental disabilities during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Although Alabama has reopened some businesses and services, the continued increase in COVID-19 cases in Alabama cannot be ignored. People with intellectual and developmental disabilities are at higher risk of being negatively impacted by COVID-19, either due to their primary disability or a secondary condition.

For this reason, DDD is extending the directive to maintain closure of congregate facility-based Day Habilitation services through June 30, 2020. In the following weeks, DDD will be working with the DDD COVID-19 Provider Task Force to prepare guidelines for reopening July 1 should the decision be made to restart these services at that time.

On May 8, DDD learned that CMS did not approve the 'retainer payments' option requested through its "Appendix K" application for emergency waivers. **Effective June 1, ONLY actual services (e.g., face-to-face, virtual, phone, etc.) provided can be billed.** **DDD COVID-19 Subsidized Payments equaling the value of the 'retainer payments' will continue to be paid through June 30. Invoices for these payments will be generated by ADMH-DDD. Therefore, Providers should NOT bill for Day Habilitation, Community Experience, or Pre-voc services for the month of June as they will continue to be covered by a DDD COVID-19 Subsidized Payment.** The DDD COVID-19 Subsidized Payment will be based on the provider's March 2020 claims billing.

Thank you as always for your hard work and commitment to supporting the health and safety of those we serve during this unprecedented time.

Sincerely,

Terry L. Pezent
Associate Commissioner – Developmental Disabilities Division
Alabama Department of Mental Health
<http://www.mh.alabama.gov>

Please send any questions you may have relating to COVID-19, services, etc., to: ADMH-DDD.Questions@mh.alabama.gov