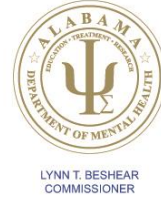


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LYNN T. BESHEAR
COMMISSIONER

TO: DDD PROVIDER NETWORK
FROM: Division of Developmental Disabilities
RE: Response to COVID-19 (rel20)
DATE: November 13, 2020

**COVID-19 Guidance for Alabama HCBS Waiver Providers, Families and Individuals Served
Division of Developmental Disabilities Services**

According to our most recent data used to track the impact of COVID-19 on those served through our waiver services, providers across the state are reporting an increase of positive test and hospitalizations across the state. As part of ADMH's responsibility for oversight and management, DDD Staff are reviewing reports to ensure providers followed their approved risk mitigation plan. Please ensure your organization has adequate PPE supplies, sanitizing supplies, and follow CDC's guidelines (to include during transportation).

IMPORTANT RESOURCES:

AADMD – [Joint Position Statement on COVID-19 Vaccine Allocation and Safety](#)
[Developmental Disabilities Heighten Risk of Covid Death](#)

COVID-19 IDD Education – Upcoming [COVID-19 & IDD Webinar Series](#)

[Past Webinars:](#) The DSP Experience During the Pandemic, Interdisciplinary Care During COVID, Nursing & COVID-19, COVID-19 & People with IDD

As a reminder, people with intellectual and developmental disabilities are considered at higher risk of long-term adverse consequences from COVID-19, either due to their primary disability or a secondary condition.

COVID-19 spreads easily from person to person, mainly by the following routes:

- Between people who are in close contact with one another (within 6 feet).
- Through respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs, sneezes, breathes, sings or talks.

Staff and Individuals Should:

Wash your hands

- Often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds especially after you have been in a public place, or after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing.
- If soap and water are not readily available, use a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.

Stay at least 6 feet (about 2 arms' length) from other people.

Cover your mouth and nose with a mask when around others.

Clean AND disinfect frequently touched surfaces daily.

- This includes tables, doorknobs, light switches, countertops, handles, desks, phones, keyboards, toilets, faucets, and sinks.

Monitor Your Health Daily

- Be alert for symptoms. Watch for fever, cough, shortness of breath, or [other symptoms](#) of COVID-19.

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