

Information Memorandum Transmittal Developmental Disabilities Services



Lilia Teninty

Authorized signature

Number: APD-IM-20-026

Issue date: 3/18/2020

Topic: Developmental Disabilities

Due date: 3/18/2020

Subject: Behavior Professionals and home visits during CV19

Applies to (check all that apply):

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> All DHS employees | <input type="checkbox"/> County Mental Health Directors |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Area Agencies on Aging:
{Select type} | <input type="checkbox"/> Health Services |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aging and People with Disabilities | <input type="checkbox"/> Office of Developmental
Disabilities Services (ODDS) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Self Sufficiency Programs | <input type="checkbox"/> ODDS Children's Intensive In-Home
Services |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> County DD program managers | <input type="checkbox"/> Stabilization and Crisis Unit (SACU) |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Support Service Brokerage Directors | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (<i>please specify</i>): Independent
and Agency Providers of Professional
Behavior Services. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ODDS Children's Residential
Services | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Child Welfare Programs | |

Message:

Oregon has recently seen COVID-19 cases in individuals without high-risk exposures. This means COVID-19 has spread in communities in Oregon. COVID-19 is spread from person-to-person through droplets in the air and on surfaces that people touch.

To protect the health and safety of individuals, their families and providers, Office of Developmental Disabilities Services (ODDS) is providing the following guidance.

Help stop COVID-19 by knowing the signs and symptoms

✓Fever ✓Cough ✓Shortness of breath

The supports and services that Behavior Professionals provide is critical for some of the children, youth and adults receiving services from the Office of Developmental Disabilities Services. Knowing that some individuals are going to have their routines interrupted and access to the community limited, it is expected that the supports

Behavior Professionals provide to individuals will be even more crucial over the next few months. A Behavior Professional may need to augment an existing plan or create a new plan to address the changes an Individual may experience during this time. A Behavior Professional should remain aware of the hours authorized in the Service Agreement or ISP and request that the Services Coordinator or Personal Agent request exceptional funding for additional hours of Professional Behavior Services if necessary, to accomplish this. Behavior Professionals should also be cognizant that the anticipated date of completion of an FBA or PBSP may be delayed and the Behavior Professional should make this known to the Services Coordinator Personal Agent as well as the Individual and their Designated Persons.

Working with the Individuals you serve

- Consider OAR 411-304-0140(2)(a-c) and creatively find alternate ways to support Individuals and their Designated Persons.
- Individuals, families, and other providers should follow good hygiene guidelines and preventive measures to reduce the spread of illness.
- [Specific guidance](#) around back-up planning has been put out for case managers, which is also available for individuals, families, and Behavior Professionals.

Take precautions prior to going into a home:

- Assure that you have no signs or symptoms of COVID-19
- Check in with the individual or family with the following questions in mind:
 - Has anyone in the home had signs or symptoms of a respiratory infection, such as fever, cough, shortness of breath, or sore throat?
 - Have you had contact in the last 14 days with someone with a confirmed diagnosis of COVID-19, or under investigation for COVID-19?
 - Have you traveled internationally within the last 14 days to [countries with sustained community transmission](#)?
- If you have concerns about possibly compromising the health and safety of yourself, an Individual, or any household members, use discretion and creativity with home visits.
- If you choose to conduct a home visit, provide the Individual and their team guidance on protecting themselves and others by practicing proper handwashing, limiting surfaces touched, and maintaining a safe distance from other household members.

How to [protect yourself and others](#)

Practice good hygiene

- Wash your hands prior to entering the home, upon entering the home, and prior to leaving the home. Use 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.
- Encourage the Individual, family, and designated persons to wash their hands prior to your home visit.

- If soap and water are not available, use a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol. Cover all surfaces of your hands and continue to rub them together until they feel dry.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth. Encourage the Individual, family, and designated persons to avoid touching their face as well.
- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze or use the inside of your elbow. Throw used tissues in the trash.
- Immediately follow the “Practice good hygiene” steps above.

Clean and disinfect

- [Clean AND disinfect](#) frequently touched surfaces daily. This includes your laptop, mouse, and any other equipment you use when creating your plans, as well as tables, doorknobs, light switches, countertops, handles, toilets, faucets, and sinks.
- Clean dirty surfaces with soap and water prior to disinfection.

Avoid close contact

- Consider OAR 411-304-0140(2)(a-c) and creatively find alternate ways to serve Individuals and their Designated Persons.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick or have symptoms of COVID-19.
- Put distance between yourself and other people if COVID-19 is spreading in your community. This is especially important for people who are at [higher risk](#).
- Avoid gatherings and activities in the community when possible. Working together is key.

COVID-19 Resources:

[Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\) Guidance](#)

[ODDS COVID-19 Information](#)

[ODDS COVID-19 YouTube Video](#)

[Oregon Health Authority \(OHA\) Emerging Respiratory Infections: COVID-19](#)

[Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services \(CMS\) Universal Infection Control](#)

[Training Course](#)

[Centers for Disease Control \(CDC\) “Clean Hands Count for Safe Healthcare”](#)

[Centers for Disease Control \(CDC\) Hand Hygiene in Healthcare Settings](#)

ODDS will be hosting a webinar for Behavior Professionals regarding CV19.

Please register for the Mar 26, 2020 10:00 AM webinar:

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/5691908219812794379>

If you have any questions about this information memorandum, contact:

Kirsten.G.Collins@state.or.us