

COVID-19 Response

DHS Office of Aging and People with Disabilities

Presentation to the Senate Interim Committee on Human Services

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Agenda for Today

- APD actions to date
- Access to PPE for clients and staff
- In-home care/ Home Care Commission
- Congregate care considerations and updates
- Visitations guidelines during reopening

Prevention and outbreak management

- February 29: First visitor restrictions.
- Nearly all programmatic policies and practices were adapted with a focus on prevention.
- Statewide on-site reviews conducted of more than 670 long-term care facility emergency plans for pandemic from March 9-13
- Developed interagency response strategies
- Established emergency health care centers
 - 47-bed building at Laurelhurst Village Rehab in Portland
 - 50-bed facility at Pacific Health and Rehabilitation in Tigard

Care facility oversight updated

- Visitation restrictions expanded to include adult foster homes; congregate activities and dining prohibited
- Facilities required to report suspected or COVID-19 cases, executive order issued
- List of facilities with suspected/confirmed cases posted on DHS website (includes breakdown of facilities with resident and/or staff cases)
- Facilities with confirmed cases receive weekly on-site visit from licensing
 - ✓ Reviews focus on infection control practices, PPE supplies, staffing
 - ✓ If deficiencies are found, technical assistance provided

Multi-agency response to outbreaks

- With a first case of COVID-19:
 - ✓ DHS executive order issued
 - ✓ DHS weekly review
 - ✓ Local public health agency advises facility
- Regional team (DHS, local public health) monitors:
 - ✓ Infection control practices
 - ✓ Staffing
 - ✓ Personal protective equipment
- State interagency facility support team responds if facility is unable to manage outbreak, residents' needs
- Efforts informed by DHS/OHA data sharing agreement

Progress report

Large facilities with current confirmed cases is currently down from a peak of 28 to 16 in May (more than 40% reduction)

Adult foster homes with current cases dropped by about 60% to 3 in May

Emergency health care centers provided resource for managing cases and ensuring availability of hospital beds for acute care

- 100 total EHCC admissions as of late May
- 92 of the 100 were residents of a long-term care facility when they contracted the virus

Access to PPE

- Encouraging signs in supply chains
- Local public health authorities are emergency supplier when supply chains break down
- State is emergency backdrop when local public health authority supplies break down
- PPE distribution centers for HCWs/ PSWs throughout Oregon

In-home care supports

- Oregon Home Care Commission (OHCC) provided infection control resources translated in 7 languages
- Extended orientation requirements
- Collaborated with SEIU to list individuals who could provide respite for care providers
- Background check procedures adjusted to accelerate approval when appropriate

Congregate care considerations

- **Adult day services**
 - Closed effective 3/23/2020
 - Financial supports provided through at least July 15
 - Currently developing reopening principles
- **Reopening principles:**
 - County must be approved for Phase 2
 - Limited number of participants at one time
 - Full screening for signs and symptoms of participants
 - Social distancing/ PPE use required

Congregate care considerations

Salon services

- Requirements for reopening scheduled for issuance on June 2nd

Phase 1 guidance:

- Consumers have same rights as any other Oregonian
- Additional responsibilities for co-residents associated with living in a high-risk community
- Require distribution of information to residents
- Screening and risk-based interviews upon facility return
- Additional monitoring and protections when consumer engaged in high-risk activities

Phase 2 reopening visitation guidelines

Policies in process

Will likely incorporate the following principles:

- Building must be COVID free
- County must be approved for Phase 2
- Limited number of visitors at one time, including possibility of appointment system
- Full screening for signs and symptoms of visitors
- Social distancing required
- Full use of PPE required

Wrap-up

- APD population at highest risk.
- Residents of large congregate facilities account for over half of all COVID-19 fatalities.
- Must remain diligent through all phases of reopening and be prepared for Fall of 2020.
- Policies and guidance must balance:
 - Risk to individual;
 - Individual resident rights;
 - Resident's emotional well-being; and
 - Resident's responsibilities for overall community safety and wellness.

Questions?