March 13, 2020

To CDDPs, Brokerages and Providers:

This message is to inform Case Management Entities and Providers about precautions to take regarding COVID-19 for Day Support Activity (DSA), Employment Path Facility or Employment Path Community locations where several individuals with I/DD recreate or work together.

ODDS wants to ensure health and safety is supported during this time. Specifically, it is critical that DSA programs implement emergency plans that will specifically address a virus outbreak (such as COVID-19). Some ideas to address potential concerns regarding the transmission of COVID-19 includes avoiding crowded areas for individuals who may be at risk of being significantly negatively impacted by COVID-19.

Universal precautions should always be used in a DSA or Employment Path setting. For instance, as part of DSP Core Competency standards and ongoing training, staff should be trained on proper hand washing and other precautionary or protective measures. These training completions should be documented by agency providers.

As always, but even more so than usual, staff should frequently wash their hands when working, and should always wash their hands prior to assisting someone with eating or personal hygiene. Additionally, sites should be maintained and cleaned regularly with appropriate cleaning materials. More information on this can be found here: https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/home/cleaning-disinfection.html

Transmittal PT 20-15 references ODDS policy and guidance, including that providers can send people home if they have concerns about health and safety.

DSA providers can also suspend services if they do not have enough staff to ensure health and safety of people in services. In the event this needs to

“Assisting People to Become Independent, Healthy and Safe”
occur, ODDS should be notified immediately.

In addition to communication with medical professionals and public health entities, a provider should notify ODDS if there is a presumptive positive case of COVID-19 for an individual who attends a DSA or Employment Path setting. Notification should be submitted to the ODDS Emergency Management Specialist at: ODDS.FieldLiaison@dhsoha.state.or.us.

If a provider is concerned that someone may be sick or has a presumptive positive case of COVID-19, please notify public health authorities.

Please reference Oregon Health Authority (OHA) Emerging Respiratory Infections for more information and guidance: www.healthoregon.org/coronavirus.