

State of New Jersey



# **NJ DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES**

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## **DIVISION OF DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES**

### **Division Update for Individuals, Families, and Providers**

**August 25, 2022**

# Agenda

- September Webinar
- COVID-19 Statistics
- Register Ready – Special Needs Registry
- Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) Settings Rule
- Family and Provider Relations
- Monkeypox
- Resources

# COVID-19 Update Webinar Schedule

- September Update Webinar:
  - Thursday September 22, 2022 – 10:30 am.
- [Register for the September Webinar.](#)



# New Jersey COVID-19 Current Statistics\*



State of New Jersey	
Positive	2,265,116
Deaths	31,395

*\*This update is as of August 24, 2022.*

**For regular updates: <https://covid19.nj.gov/>.**

**Consider downloading COVID Alert NJ on your Apple or Android smartphone: <https://covid19.nj.gov/pages/app>.**

# DDD Specific COVID-19 Statistics\*



	Community		Developmental Centers	Total
	Licensed	Own Home		
Positive	4,271	2,327	862	7,460
Deaths	136	87	42	265

*\*DDD-specific statistics are updated weekly. Community data includes individuals **actively** under DDD services in settings such as group homes, supervised apartments, out of state, and own-home settings.*

*Full detail, including data for individuals not under services for whom reporting is voluntary and provided for informational purposes only, can be found at [NJ Department of Human Services COVID-19 Information](#).*

# Register Ready – Special Needs Registry

- [NJ Register Ready](#) helps people with disabilities in times of emergency. NJ residents with special needs are encouraged to add their personal information to this special needs registry.
- Persons living on their own or with family can register.
- A service provider can also register Group Homes they operate.
- The information is shared with emergency response agencies in the event of an emergency or evacuation in your area. No one else will have access to the information.



# Register Ready – Special Needs Registry

- A person can register in several ways:
  - By registering online via their [website](#).
  - By [texting](#) *ReadyNJ* to 898-211. After that you will receive:
    - Disaster preparedness information.
    - Assistance registering special needs.
    - Alerts for emergency situations.
    - Connection to resources.
  - By calling 2-1-1 and asking a representative to assist you in registering.
- To keep this registry current, registrants are required to update their registration information each year.



# Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) Settings Rule

- Two new resources for providers have been released for service providers related to the HCBS Settings Rule:
  - [A Provider's Guide to the Home and Community Based Services Final Settings Rule](#)
    - This guide will assist service providers with information, best practices, and examples to assist in HCBS compliance.
  - [Office of Licensing Bulletin – Privacy in Residential Living Spaces](#)
    - Outlines requirements for provider owned or controlled community residences. Service Providers must ensure that individuals have the means to lock/unlock their homes and bedroom doors so that they have privacy in their residential living spaces.
- Additional information on the HCBS Settings Rule can be found at:
  - [Division of Medical Assistance and Health Services Website](#)
  - [Division of Developmental Disabilities HCBS Website](#)



# Family and Provider Relations

- One topic communicated to the Division by some families is their experience or fear of retaliation by the service provider of their loved one if they lodge a complaint about care.
- The Division convened a small group of families and service providers to discuss this topic.
- Please see [Family and Provider Relations](#) for more information.



# Monkeypox

- The virus can cause flu-like symptoms, swollen lymph nodes, and a rash that often begins on the face and spreads to other parts of the body.
- Monkeypox does not spread easily to people without close contact. People who think they may have been exposed to Monkeypox or who have symptoms of Monkeypox should consult with a healthcare provider.
- The New Jersey Department of Health (NJDOH) is working in conjunction with CDC and local health departments to quickly identify Monkeypox cases and close contacts, provide treatment and vaccine, and further prevent the spread of disease.

# Monkeypox

- Symptoms of Monkeypox can include:
  - A rash that can look like pimples or blisters that appears on the face, inside of the mouth, and on other parts of the body such as hands, feet, chest, genitals, or anus;
  - Fever;
  - Headache;
  - Swollen lymph nodes;
  - Exhaustion;
  - Muscle aches and backache;
  - Chills.

# Monkeypox

- What to do if you think you might have Monkeypox?
  - See a health care provider and do the following until you are seen/have received test results.
    - Avoid close contact (including intimate contact) with others;
    - Wear a mask when in prolonged, close proximity with others;
    - Rashes on the body should be covered with long sleeves or pants to avoid touching other people;
    - Avoid close contact with pets or other animals until you have seen a health care provider.

# Monkeypox

- Isolation Guidelines

- Isolate until all lesions have resolved, the scabs have fallen off, and a fresh layer of intact skin has formed (usually 2-4 weeks).
- Stay home except as required for emergencies or follow-up medical care.
- If possible, use a separate bathroom if there are others who live in the same household.
- Wear a well-fitting mask or respirator if you need to be around other people in the home.

# Monkeypox

- Isolation Guidelines Continued
  - Routinely clean and disinfect commonly touched surfaces using an EPA-registered disinfectant.
  - Wash hands with soap and water and use hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol.
  - Abstain from all sexual activity.
  - Avoid close contact with other people and pets in the home.
  - Avoid use of contact lenses to prevent eye infection.
  - Avoid shaving areas of the body with blisters or lesions to prevent spread of the virus.

# Monkeypox

- For more information on Monkeypox please visit:
  - [New Jersey Department of Health Monkeypox website.](#)
    - The [Toolkit](#) page has important infographics on:
      - [Frequently Asked Questions](#);
      - [Key Facts](#);
      - [Isolation Guidelines](#);
      - [Q and A for Close Contacts](#);
      - And much more.
  - [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Monkeypox website.](#)
    - [Monkeypox: Get the Facts](#);
    - [Social Gatherings, Safer Sex and Monkeypox.](#)
    - Visual Examples of Monkeypox Rash:
      - [Rash Example 1](#);
      - [Rash Example 2.](#)



# Important Resources

- [Disability Rights New Jersey](#)
  - 1-800-922-7233 (toll-free in New Jersey only)
- [Ombudsman for Individuals with Developmental Disabilities and their Families](#)
  - 1-609-984-7764
- [New Jersey Council on Developmental Disabilities](#)
  - 1-800-792-8858





# Important Resources

- For assistance during this time:
  - For issues, call the Division Community Services office for your county or 1 (800) 832-9173.
  - For routine questions: [DDD.FeeForService@dhs.nj.gov](mailto:DDD.FeeForService@dhs.nj.gov)
  - For COVID-related questions: [DDD.COVID-19@dhs.nj.gov](mailto:DDD.COVID-19@dhs.nj.gov)
  - To report suspected abuse, neglect or exploitation: call 1 (800) 832-9173, then press 1.

# Highlighted Resources

- For individuals, families and caregivers:
  - [Boggs Center COVID-19 Information and Resources](#)
  - [COVID-19 Materials for People with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities and Care Providers.](#)
- For individuals:
  - NJ Self-Advocacy Project's [Stay Healthy at Home Webinar Series.](#)
- For Direct Support Professionals:
  - [National Alliance for Direct Support Professionals \(NADSP\) COVID-19 Toolkit for DSPs.](#)
  - [CDC Guidance for Direct Service Providers.](#)