Residential Moves

For individuals engaging in a residential move it is important to understand that, even with prudent steps taken to reduce the risk of COVID-19 infection, neither a provider nor the Division of Developmental Disabilities (Division) can guarantee that COVID-19 transmission will not occur. Until further notice, placements/moves into provider-managed settings may occur so long as the criteria below are met prior to move. Individuals moving into settings using self-directed employees are encouraged to follow this guidance:

- The Planning Team (PT) comprised of the individual, family, guardian, support coordinator, provider and other relevant parties meet to discuss the overall risk a move poses to the individual’s mental and physical health, discuss safety protocols, and share relevant COVID-19 policies and procedures the provider and Division have in place. The Support Coordinator shall document this in the iRecord as a case note.
- A Receipt of COVID-19 Information Form must be reviewed and signed by the individual or their guardian (if they have one) before the move occurs. This contains important information on the transmission and risk of COVID-19. If the setting is provider managed, the provider shall retain this form.
- The setting adheres to relevant Division policies and implements practices in accordance with guidance issued by Federal and State health officials. This includes, but is not limited to: Adherence to Division and provider policies on screening, visitation, universal masking and COVID-19 reporting. Some sites with relevant guidance are:
  - DHS Coronavirus Information
  - NJ COVID-19 Information Hub
  - CDC Covid-19 website and CDC Guidance for Group Homes for Individuals with Disabilities
- The program has sufficient personal protective equipment and staffing to support the needs of all residents/staff.
- A move shall not occur if the individual moving or any residents or staff in the proposed home have tested positive for COVID-19 in the past 28 days and/or have displayed signs or symptoms of COVID-19 in the last 14 days.
- For the individual moving into the provider-managed setting, the provider must complete a COVID-19 screening on day of admission before the individual enters the residence. The provider shall retain a record of this screening; and
- For the individual moving into the provider managed setting, the provider must have documentation that a COVID-19 test was administered no more than 10 days prior to admission and be in receipt of a negative result from the lab administering that test before the individual moves in. The provider shall retain a copy of the negative result from the lab administering the test.

All moves into and out of a provider-managed settings must be reported to the Division’s Provider Performance and Monitoring Unit (PPMU) before they occur. Reported moves or questions can be sent to DDD.PPMU@dhs.nj.gov. The Division will continue to assist providers that have identified a location they plan to use for quarantine purposes. For questions related to new programs or the development of quarantine space, contact your assigned program developer.

DDD Rental Subsidies through Supportive Housing Connection

New requests for Division rental subsidies through the Supportive Housing Connection (SHC) are no longer limited to emergencies. The Department of Community Affairs (DCA) has informed the Division that there may be delays in unit inspections. To ensure timely lease signing, DCA is permitting submission of the Certificate of Occupancy for the site or an Owner Certification until a unit inspection can be secured. The Division will adopt this flexibility as well. Referrals can continue to be made through the individual’s support coordinator.