



State of Louisiana

Louisiana Department of Health
Office for Citizens with Developmental Disabilities

MEMORANDUM

OCDD-P-20-013
OCDD-R-20-004
OCDD-SC-20-002

DATE: March 24, 2020

TO: OCDD Home and Community Based Waiver Service Providers
OCDD Home and Community Based Waiver Support Coordination Agencies
Self-Direction Employers via Self-Direction Fiscal Intermediary Agents
Local Governing Entities

FROM: Julie Foster Hagan, OCDD Assistant Secretary

SUBJECT: COVID-19 Response

Office for Citizens with Developmental Disabilities (OCDD) has been working to ensure that all important information and guidance is distributed to all affected individuals (provider agencies, support coordination agencies, local governing entities, and individuals and families in self-direction). OCDD will continue to send important guidelines and information out as quickly as possible throughout this event, and I would also suggest that everyone visit our Louisiana Department of Health (LDH) Coronavirus Page (<http://ldh.la.gov/Coronavirus/>) on a daily basis for valuable resources, updates, and links to information that will assist individuals in this difficult time.

OCDD would like to apologize that we were unable to hold our scheduled provider call yesterday due to IT-related issues. For future meetings, we are considering other options such as regional break-outs. We are also working on how to help people understand how to most efficiently use Zoom so that we can have interactive conversations with all of our stakeholders through this event, and beyond.

Paul Rhorer and I have done a recording with the information that was going to be shared on the provider call yesterday, and you can access this recording here:
https://ldhocddadmin.zoom.us/rec/play/78Updeio_G43T9bG4QSDC6d7W466LKishCQf-vAPz0rnAiYCN1euZOATY7Gt2kDe958OnmkWXRbidzo2?continueMode=true&_xzm_rtaid=vuaRbR0DTW2NLkrfZ-oK0w.1585065347450.035da747887ca28c0843d431c0f1bfc6&_xzm_rtaid=663

Additionally, you should continue to send any questions you have concerning waiver services, guidance that is sent out by our office, or questions about the shared recording to our OCDD e-mail address: ocdd-hcbs@la.gov. We have informed staff checking this

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e-mail throughout the day and sending responses as quickly as possible, usually within a 1 – 3 hour window. OCDD is compiling all of the questions and answers received from this site into a “Frequently Asked Questions/Answers” document that will be updated daily on our OCDD website beginning March 24, 2020. This document will also be sent to all people in self-direction and service providers on a weekly basis. You can access our OCDD website at the following link: <http://ldh.la.gov/index.cfm/subhome/11> . If you have questions related to how to handle specific situations about exposure to COVID-19, isolation, need for testing, etc., you should call 2–1–1 to talk to a subject matter expert about their questions.

Everyone at LDH and OCDD is committed to assisting people during this stressful and unprecedented time, and we are working to ensure all of our stakeholders have access to available resources and guidance on response to this emergency event.