Division Update for Individuals, Families, and Providers

April 28, 2022
NJMentalHealthCares

If you’re concerned about your mental health or the mental health of someone you love, **NJMentalHealthCares** can help. The **free helpline** offers telephone counseling, emotional support, information and assistance.

866-202-HELP (4357)
7 days per week, 8am - 8pm
Agenda

• May Webinar
• COVID-19 Statistics
• Self-Directed Employee Mandated Trainings
• Office of Education on Self-Directed Services
• Employee Onboarding
• Resources
COVID-19 Update Webinar Schedule

- May Update Webinar:
  - Thursday May 26, 2022 – 10:30 am.

- Register for the May Webinar.
New Jersey COVID-19 Current Statistics*

*This update is as of Wednesday, April 27, 2022.


<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State of New Jersey</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Positive</td>
<td>1,938,518</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deaths</td>
<td>30,373</td>
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NJ DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
DIVISION OF DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES
DDD Specific COVID-19 Statistics*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Community</th>
<th>Developmental Centers</th>
<th>Total</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Licensed</td>
<td>Own Home</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Positive</td>
<td>3,374</td>
<td>1,598</td>
<td>792</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deaths</td>
<td>134</td>
<td>81</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*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](https://nj.gov/humanServices/covid-19/).
Self-Directed Employee Mandated Trainings (PPL)

- As noted in Appendix E of the Supports Program and Community Care Program Policies and Procedures Manuals, Self-Directed Employees (SDEs) have six-months (180 days) from the first date of working/providing services for an individual to complete all mandated trainings.
Self-Directed Employee Mandated Trainings (PPL)

• On July 15, 2021, Public Partnerships began processing one-time training payments for SDEs who had completed all mandated trainings and submitted a signed Training Certification Form.

• From that date forward, all new SDEs were provided six-months to complete the below to avoid any lapse in payment:
  • Complete all mandated trainings;
  • Obtain the signature of the Employer of Record (EOR) on the Training Certification Form; and
  • Submit the completed form to Public Partnerships.
Self-Directed Employee Mandated Trainings (PPL)

- Public Partnerships recently moved to enforce this requirement and found that some SDEs were not in compliance.
- Public Partnerships has worked with DDD to provide a one-time extension for SDEs who have exceeded the described six-month timeframe to complete all mandated trainings.
- Specifically, all SDEs who have been employed six-months or longer as of May 31, 2022 must complete all mandated trainings by that date.
- All other SDEs have six-months from date of working/providing services to complete all mandated trainings.
Self-Directed Employee Mandated Trainings (PPL)

- Mandated Trainings include:
  - **DDD System Mandatory Training Bundle.**
    - DDD Stephen Komninos’ Law Training;
    - DDD Life Threatening Emergencies (Danielle’s Law);
    - DDD Shifting Expectations: Changes in Perception, Life Experience and Services;
    - Prevention of Abuse, Neglect & Exploitation: Modules 1, 3, 4, 5, and 7;
    - Prevention of Abuse, Neglect and Exploitation Practicum (on-site competency assessment after completing Prevention of Abuse, Neglect and Exploitation modules); and
    - Individual/Family-Developed Orientation (length, content determined by the individual/family).
  - **CPR Certification with in-person practicum (re-certification every two years).**
  - **Standard First Aid Certification with in-person practicum (re-certification every two years).**
Self-Directed Employee Mandated Trainings (PPL)

• For more information please:
  • Visit PPL’s NJ DDD Program webpage at www.publicpartnerships.com;
  • Call the PPL Customer Service Team at 1-844-842-5891;
  • Email the PPL Customer Service Team at njddd-cs@pcgus.com or PPL Training Helpdesk at njddd-training@pcgus.com;
  • You may also contact DDD’s Fee-for-Service Helpdesk at DDD.FeeForService@dhs.nj.gov.
Office of Education on Self-Directed Services

- The Office of Education on Self-Directed Services and Rutgers Community Living Education Project (CLEP) will host a monthly conversation series on self-direction.

- With a focus on person-centered thinking and planning, self-advocates, family members, and professionals will meet virtually each month for conversations about shared experiences, common challenges, community resources and more.
Office of Education on Self-Directed Services

- Webinars are scheduled as indicated below:
  - Tuesday, May 3 - 12:00 - 1:30pm.
    - Open House: Meet the new Office of Education on Self-Directed Services and the Community Living Education Project (CLEP).
  - Tuesday, June 7 - 12:00 - 1:30pm.
    - Tentative topic: Creating a circle of support as a foundation of self-direction.
  - Tuesday, July 12 - 12:00 - 1:30pm.
    - Tentative topic: Recruiting, hiring, and managing staff.
  - Tuesday, August 2 - 12:00 - 1:30pm.
    - Tentative topic: Everything you need to know about managing payroll.
  - Tuesday, September 6 - 12:00 - 1:30pm.
    - Tentative topic: Using the collaborative map.

- Register for the May 3rd event.
- Signup for Community Living Education Project emails for info on the other events.
Employee Onboarding

• On January 20, 2022, the Office of Program Integrity and Accountability (OPIA) provided flexibility around employee onboarding for direct support professionals and self-directed employees for a period of 90 days.

• Effective April 20, 2022, OPIA has extended this flexibility through July 1, 2022.

• Please review the updated Employee Onboarding bulletin on the DHS COVID-19 Information Page or below for detail:
  • Employee Onboarding UPDATED.
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
  • For COVID-related questions: 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.