

From: ComSvsAFCLicensing
Sent: Tuesday, April 7, 2020 3:28 PM
Subject: Washington County Information for Adult Foster Care Providers
Importance: High

Hello providers,

We want to take a moment to thank you for the care you are providing for our residents. Your work is appreciated. We hope you and your families are also staying well. DHS sent information to you and we also have some information to pass along to you at this time. If you have any further questions, please reach out to your licensing social worker.

Reminder - Licensing

- The governor issued an executive order to waive some of the regulatory licensing obligations during this time. If you have a license which will be expired in March, April, or May, your license could automatically be extended for 90 days.
- In Washington County, like other counties in the area, we are exploring tools to do virtual visits. That way we can stay current with the licensing process and yet follow the governor's orders and maintain social distancing.
- There may be times when we have to visit the home, if it relates to the safety of your residents. If we do need to do this, we will practice good hygiene and social distancing protocol.

New Directives

- There have been new waivers related to the background study process with licensing.
 - There is a temporary emergency background study process that will allow a background study to be done despite fingerprint locations closing and our inability to verify identities.
 - If you need a background study completed, you will enter the information on the person needing a fingerprint background check and will submit payment. These emergency background checks are \$20.
 - You will then submit the data collection form to your licensor and we will request the background check be completed.
 - If you have any specific questions, please reach out to your licensor.
 - Website: <https://mn.gov/dhs/general-public/background-studies/covid-19/>
- At this time please follow the direction of the Minnesota Department of Health and the CDC. Both websites have good resources for navigating COVID-19.
 - MDH: www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/index.html
 - CDC: www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html
 - The MDH also developed Interim Guidance for the Prevention of COVID-19 in DHS-Licensed Residential and Non-Residential Settings with At-Risk Persons: www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/guidedhs.pdf

A great place to live, work and play...today and tomorrow

Service Center Cottage Grove
13000 Ravine Parkway
Cottage Grove, MN 55016
Phone: 651-430-4159
Fax: 651-430-4193

Service Center Forest Lake
19955 Forest Road N
Forest Lake, MN 55025
Phone: 651-275-7260
Fax: 651-275-7263

Government Center
14949 62nd St N P.O. Box 30
Stillwater, MN 55082-0030
Phone: 651-430-6455
Fax: 651-430-6605

Service Center Woodbury
2150 Radio Drive
Woodbury, MN 55125
651-275-8650
Fax: 651-275-8682

- If you were unable to attend the conference call last Tuesday (4/2), we can share some information given:
 - Provider number given: 651-201-5414 . This is a phone number given for questions you have regarding COVID-19 and congregate care settings.
 - MDH recommends wearing personal protective gear when working with residents. They recommend masks. We understand that masks aren't something that you can readily find. MDH did provide a guide to alternative masks: www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/hcp/masksalt.pdf. (Providers asked if DHS could help put congregate settings on a priority list for masks. For source control, alternative masks are ok. If someone in your facility contracts COVID-19, the Congregate Care Exposure Team would be a resource.
 - There is a team called the Congregate Care Exposure Team – they get involved anytime there is a positive test in a congregate care setting.
 - Adult foster care is considered congregate care. There are testing priorities for the owners, staff, and residents in congregate care. You can print information regarding this and bring it to the medical professionals if you are having trouble.
 - DHS has a website for community settings: www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/communities.html

Resources

- What is Coronavirus: www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/basics.html
- Mental Health MN: A separate email will be sent with great resources.
- NAMI: A separate email will be sent with resources.

Washington County Licensing

Washington County Community Services
14949 62nd St. N., Stillwater, MN 55082
651-430-8307

www.co.washington.mn.us/adultfostercarelicensing

[Washington County Public Health Dept's COVID-19 Updates](#)