



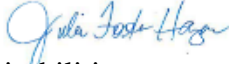
State of Louisiana
Louisiana Department of Health
Office for Citizens with Developmental Disabilities

Memorandum

OCDD-P-20-035

Date: July 2, 2020

To: Intermediate Care Facility for Individuals with Intellectual Disabilities Providers

From: Julie Foster Hagan, Assistant Secretary
Office for Citizens with Developmental Disabilities 

Subject: COVID-19 Testing

In the coming weeks the Office for Citizens with Developmental Disabilities (OCDD), in cooperation with the Office of Public Health (OPH), will begin contacting Intermediate Care Facilities for Individuals with Intellectual Disabilities (ICF/IID) in regards to COVID-19 testing needs. The Louisiana Department of Health's (LDH's) State Health Officer has strongly encouraged congregate facilities to test all residents and staff at the facility if there is one positive COVID-19 case of a resident or staff identified. This is to help ensure that COVID-19 positive individuals are identified and undergo appropriate isolation/quarantine protocols to ensure health and safety for everyone.

OCDD staff will begin contacting ICF/IID administrative staff at facilities that have had a COVID-19 positive resident or staff to gather relevant information and to help assess the current needs of the facility regarding COVID-19 testing. Facilities are encouraged to use their available resources to conduct testing of residents and staff if a COVID-19 positive case is identified. However, LDH understands that facilities may need assistance to have the testing completed, such as supplying the necessary testing kits and supplies, or having medical staff complete the testing on-site. The contact by OCDD staff will be to help gather this information and to facilitate outreach to OPH for assistance. Facilities will be requested to complete and submit a request form for this assistance, which will assist OPH in understanding the facility needs.

OCDD understands that you have received a lot of guidance and requests from LDH in regards to COVID-19, and we are hoping to streamline contact and outreach with this effort. I am asking for your cooperation in working with our OCDD staff in this engagement.

Thank you for all your continued hard work during the COVID-19 emergency.

CC: Local Governing Authorities