



State of Louisiana
Louisiana Department of Health
Office of Aging and Adult Services
Office for Citizens with Developmental Disabilities

ATTENTION: All Police Departments
Mayor's Office/Local Government
State and Federal Authorities
OAAS-ADM-20-001
OCDD-A-20-002

FROM: Sherlyn Sullivan, OAAS Interim Assistant Secretary
Julie Foster Hagan, OCDD Assistant Secretary

SUBJECT: Authorized Travel for Essential Direct Support Workers

Please allow _____, who is an Essential Direct Support Worker (DSW) for a recipient of in-home or facility based services through the Office for Citizens with Developmental Disabilities (OCDD) or the Office of Aging and Adult Services (OAAS), under the umbrella of the **Louisiana Department of Health (LDH)**, to travel to and from the recipient's home or facility during the COVID-19 Pandemic Crisis.

OCDD and OAAS serve a vulnerable population of recipients that require the services of these workers to maintain their health and safety. A direct support worker works directly with an individual in this vulnerable population helping to do everything from eating, dressing, bathing and caring for themselves to shopping, navigating the community, house-keeping, bill paying, seeing their physician, and maintaining their health.

It has been determined by OCDD, OAAS, and LDH that without services during this pandemic crisis this recipient would be at imminent risk for neglect and/or harm without this **Essential Direct Support Worker**.