HEALTHCARE FACILITY NOTICE/ORDER
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

TO: Adult Day Care (ADC) Providers
    Adult Day Health Care (ADHC) Providers
    PACE Providers

FROM: LDH Office of Public Health
      Joseph Kanter, M.D.
      State Health Officer

RE: State Health Officer Order

DATE: July 27, 2021

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EFFECTIVE DATES: This Emergency Order shall be effective immediately and shall remain in effect until further notice from the State Health Officer.

RATIONALE AND LEGAL AUTHORITY:


The COVID-19 outbreak in Louisiana continues. Measures are necessary to protect the health and safety of the public.

The State Health Officer expressly finds that the measures ordered herein are necessary to help control and prevent further spread of COVID-19, a communicable, contagious, and infectious disease that represent a serious and imminent threat to the public health.
NOW THEREFORE, pursuant to the powers vested in me by L.R.S. 40:1 et seq., particularly La. R.S. 40:4(A)(13) and La. R.S. 40:5(A)(2), I, Joseph Kanter, M.D., State Health Officer, do hereby issue the following emergency order:

(1) All ADC, ADHC and PACE providers in Louisiana are mandated and directed to reinstate universal masking, regardless of COVID-19 vaccination status, in their facility for all staff, clients/participants and visitors. This is a temporary measure to protect the health and safety of all staff, clients/participants and visitors due to the current surge of COVID-19 cases in Louisiana.

(a) A Client/Participant DOES NOT need to wear a mask when they are eating or if the client/participant has a medical condition that precludes masking.

(2) Any ADC, ADHC, or PACE provider may impose stricter policies than mandated in this Order if the facility chooses, provided that the facility have a policy and procedure in place to address such restrictions.

(3) This State Health Officer Order replaces and supersedes any previously issued State Health Officer orders/notices to ADC, ADHC, and PACE providers regarding masking of all staff, clients/participants and visitors.

(4) This State Health Officer Order does not mandate that any ADC, ADHC or PACE provider re-open.

(5) This State Health Officer Order does not mandate that any client or participant return to an ADC, ADHC or PACE Center.

(6) Any ADC, ADHC, or PACE provider that provides transportation to clients/participants shall follow the same protocols as identified in Number (1) above while any clients, participants and staff are in the vehicle.

(7) If local ordinances and/or COVID-19 restrictions are more stringent than this order, the ADC, ADHC, and PACE providers shall follow any local ordinances and/or COVID-19 restrictions.


[Signature]

Joseph Kanter, MD, MPH
State Health Officer
Concurrence:

Dr. Courtney N. Phillips  DATE
LDH Secretary