



March 19, 2020

Dear Day & Employment Services Provider:

We are writing to clarify our guidance regarding the provision of day and employment services during the coronavirus (COVID-19) public health emergency in the District. The Department on Disability Services (DDS) has identified ways to reduce unnecessary risks via potential exposure at congregate day settings or in public outings to the residents we serve.

Developmental Disabilities Administration (DDA) service coordinators are reaching out to all who receive day services to discuss their current services and alternative programming for those who are currently in congregate day programs. For people receiving community-based day or employment services, the team will discuss whether the current services can be provided in a manner that protects the health and safety of the person. If not, the team will identify alternative programming with the person.

Rehabilitation Services Administration (RSA) vocational rehabilitation counselors will reach out to all people who currently receive job placement or supported employment services to confirm that these services are provided in a manner that will allow for appropriate social distancing. Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) counselors will document the steps that are being taken to provide services in a manner that limits social contacts and follows appropriate social distancing strategies; e.g., face-to-face contacts with people could be provided via Skype or conference call. In these cases, the progress report submitted by the provider must contain a comprehensive report of the interaction with the person to confirm that a substantive (virtual) meeting occurred.

We appreciate your efforts as we continue to work together to ensure that the residents we support receive necessary services, while also prioritizing the health and safety of the residents and our staff.

For more information and resources for COVID-19, please visit coronavirus.dc.gov.

Sincerely,

Andrew P. Reese

Andrew Reese
Director