



Long-Term Care Facility Outbreak Response Support

In the event of an outbreak of COVID-19 in a long-term care facility, potential staffing shortages should be anticipated, and plans started for temporary staffing support immediately. Potential Plans include:

- Contacting temporary staffing agencies/nursing pools
- Contacting corporate leadership or other sister facilities for temporary staffing support
- Contacting local emergency manager/local partners for temporary staffing support

If a staffing shortage still exists, emergency staff may be available through the State Emergency Response Team (SERT). Once an outbreak is identified, ESF8 outbreak response lead (emergency support for medical) will notify the Regional Healthcare Coalition team to reach out to the facility, local health department, and local EM to ensure awareness of available regional and state support resources (PPE, emergency staffing, outbreak support etc.). If support cannot be addressed locally, the local emergency manager can request support from the State Emergency Response Team. Available support options include temporary staff coordination from a volunteer team from ECU School of Nursing, Emergency Staffing through COVID-19 Medical volunteers, or outbreak response support from LTC Strike Teams. Please note that these resources are limited and cannot be rapidly deployed.

LTC Strike Teams consist of several clinicians of varying scope of practice (EMTs, CNAs, LPNs, Paramedics, RNs) who have received specific Infection Prevention training that will allow them to assist in process improvement efforts in the event of an outbreak. In addition to general staffing needs, Strike Team members are able to perform several additional functions:

