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Sent: Friday, June 5, 2020 12:11 PM

To: Josh Christiana <Christianaj@thearcny.org>; Kate Geurin <Geurink@thearcny.org>

Cc: Erik Geizer <geizere@thearcny.org>

Subject: Re: restriction on visitors in the IRA's

Visitation update: OPWDD reported at the Thursday 4 PM meeting that they are working on a response to requests for updated guidance on visitation in certified residential facilities and should have something shortly. We recall from last week's meeting they reported that they have reviewed DOH pilot visitation guidance and are developing a draft pilot visitation program which will be implemented on a voluntary basis by facilities that have had good experience to date in COVID-19 management practices. The draft is apparently subject to external approvals, which they currently await.

Data Update: Tamika Black reported the following as of June 3, 2020:

- 2841 COVID-19 positive individuals statewide
- 2332 of which live in certified residential programs
- 423 individual deaths
- 90% of deaths represented by individuals who live in certified residential programs
- 90% of deaths were individuals from downstate
- 83% age 50 and over
- 61% male/39% female
- 80% or more with comorbidities

OPWDD is also tracking COVID-19 diagnoses in staff. They report 3218 staff tested positive to date, of which 2755 are from certified residential programs. They will report on staff deaths next week.

Day Hab (day programs) Re-opening: Lots of discussion. OPWDD has been receiving many inquiries on reopening and requests for guidance. They know that a variety of associations and groups are developing recommendations and requested that these be shared. They reported they are not aware that the different phases apply to OPWDD. They anticipate there will be guidelines developed on social distancing requirements, staggered schedules, by service, possibly expansion and continuation of Com Hab-R to support day services based from IRAs, consideration of interest and ways to facilitate and fund alternative supports to congregate facility services for those interested. They will engage with CCOs regarding a process for approving requests for change in services.

Community Habilitation Service Authorization Guidance: As presented on the webinar on the proposed HCBS waiver agreement technical amendments earlier in the day, Kate Marlay indicated the proposed guidance is for the purpose of facilitating consistent decision making statewide regardless of which DDRO is being requested to authorize community habilitation services. Such decisions will continue to be individualized. The guidance does not impose service limits and does not apply to individuals currently receiving community

habilitation. Such guidance is not for self-directed CH, which has a different method of review, budgeting and approval.

Fiscal Update: Kevin Valenchis reported that the 1/1/20 rate updates, which include the 2% DSP funding, minimum wage and property updates is progressing in the review by DOB. We know from previous reports that DOB's Mental Hygiene unit had already completed its review. And we know the rates have been over at DOB for several weeks. Therefore, it would appear that the positive news in this report is that the Medicaid Unit at DOB has apparently commenced its review in earnest, has been asking several questions (which have been addressed by OPWDD), and it appears the completion of the review may be nearly complete. Final approval is required by DOB before rates can be loaded into eMedNY. The 4/1/20 rates are reportedly also under review by DOB. It was also reported that the Com Hab-R units and retainer units will be circulated to providers via OPA within 1-2 business days.
