



DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC SECURITY

Your Partner For A Stronger Arizona



Division of Developmental Disabilities
March 3, 2022

Agenda

- COVID-19 Updates
- Article Revisions
- Tribal Health Program (THP)
- Announcements
- AHCCCS

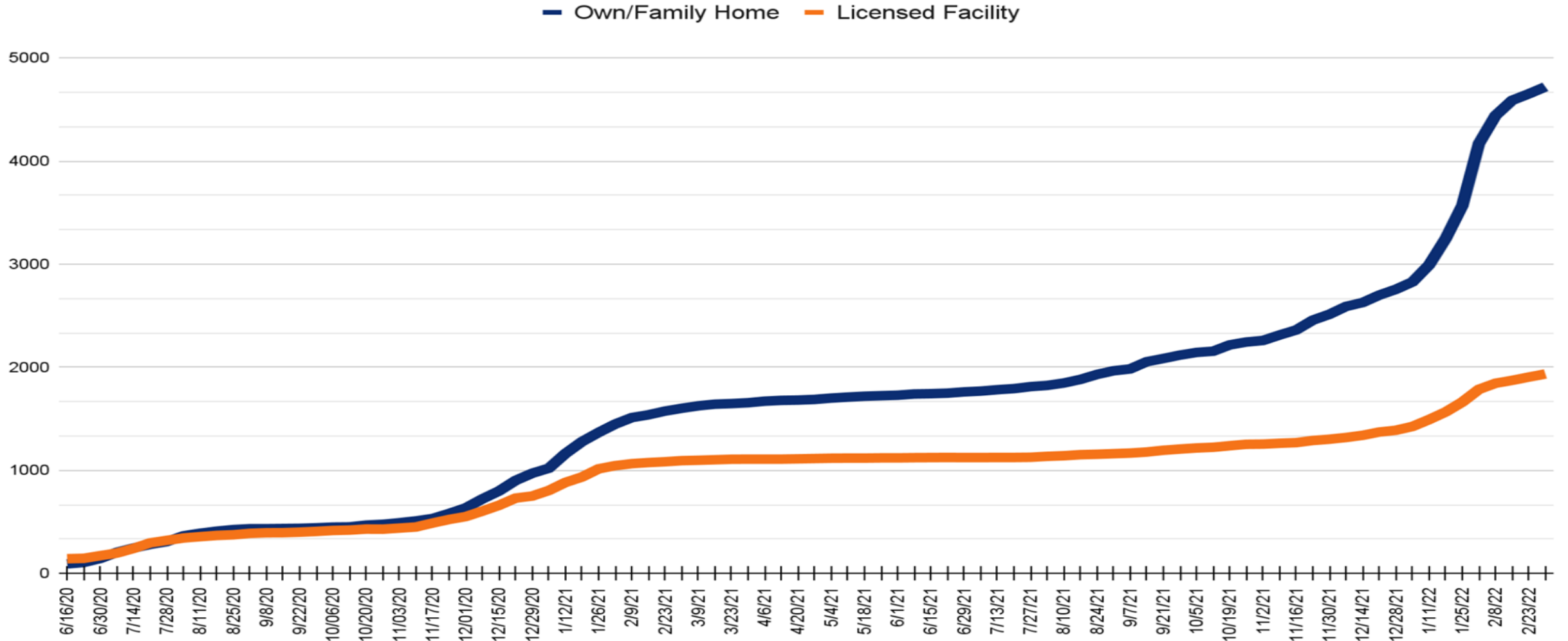
DDD's top priority is the health and safety of our members, their families, and the professionals in our program that support them

The Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD) is:

- Working with ADHS and CDC guidelines to ensure appropriate measures are in place to allow for the continuation of necessary services
- Monitoring service delivery and availability to ensure service continuation
- Providing regular updates on the DDD COVID-19 Website:
https://bit.ly/DDD_COVID19Actions

COVID-19 Member Positive Tests

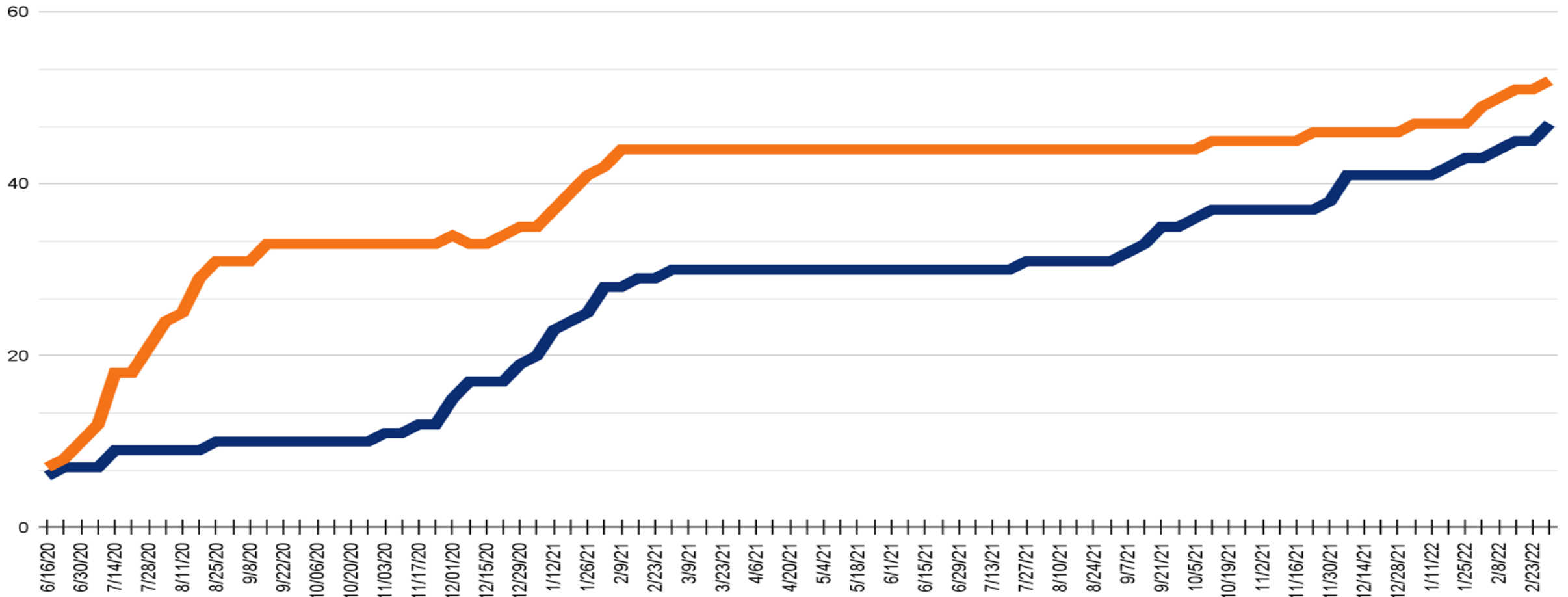
Member Positive Cases - Own/Family Home & Licensed Facilities



COVID-19 Member Mortality

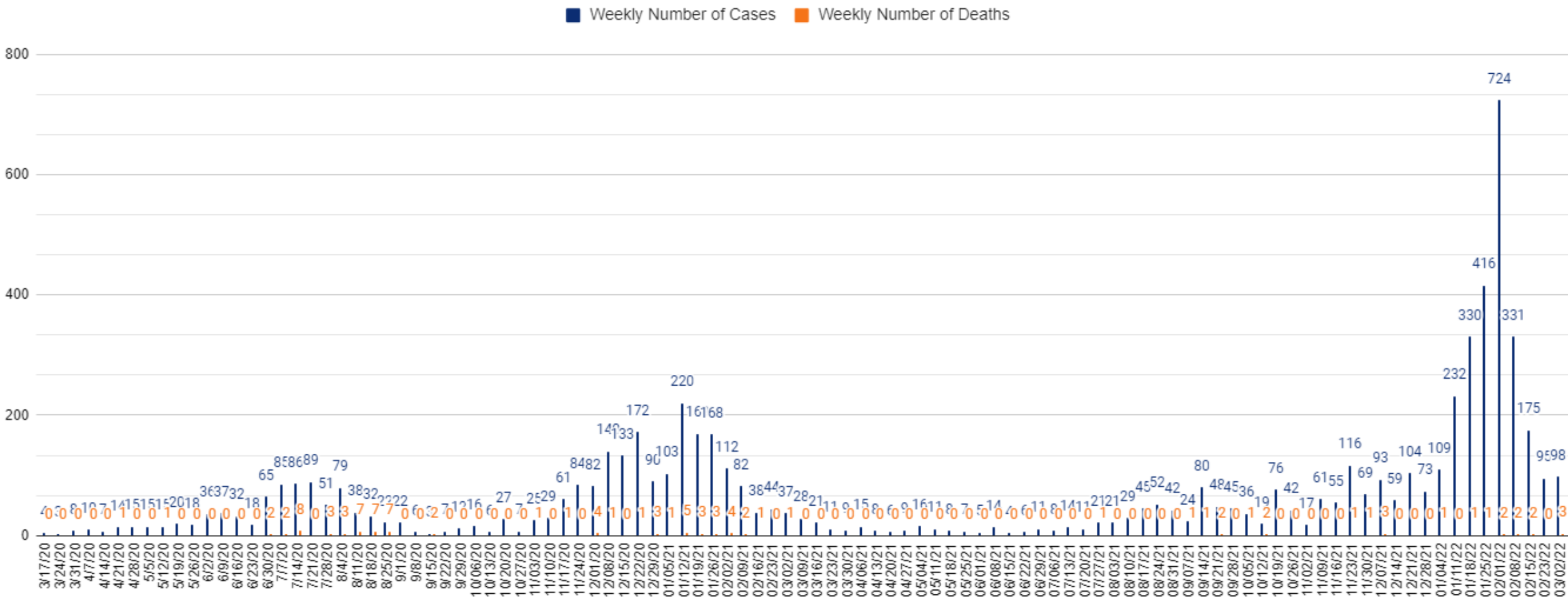
Member Deaths - Own/Family Home & Licensed Facilities

Own/Family Home Deaths Licensed Facility Deaths



COVID-19 Member Weekly Data

Member Positive Cases and Deaths Reported Each Week



COVID-19 Vaccine

Community Vaccine/Booster Event

The Division co-hosted two community vaccine events recently.

- Page - February 19
- Show Low - February 26

Another event is scheduled for Saturday, March 5, 2022, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Mohave Community College

1971 Jagerson Avenue, Kingman, AZ 86409

Building 1100, Room #1103

Interested individuals can pre-register at rrtesting.app/AZVaccine

COVID-19 Vaccine

Eligibility

- Arizonans 5 years of age and older can receive the Pfizer vaccine.
- Arizonans 18 years of age and older can receive either the Pfizer, Moderna, or Johnson & Johnson vaccine.
- Arizonans who are moderately or severely immunocompromised should get an additional primary dose 28 days after the second dose if they received either the Pfizer or Moderna vaccine.
- You can find a vaccine site:
 - Online at <https://www.azdhs.gov/findvaccine>
 - Call 1-844-542-8201
 - Text your zip code to 438829, for English, or 822862, for Spanish

COVID-19 Vaccine

Booster Shots

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends the following groups should get a booster:

- Arizonans 12 years and older who received the second dose of the Pfizer vaccine at least 5 months ago.
- Arizonans 18 years and older who received the second dose of the Moderna vaccine at least 5 months ago.
- Arizonans 18 years and older who received the Johnson & Johnson vaccine at least 2 months ago.

Individuals 18 years and older are not required to get the same brand they received for their initial vaccine. Either the **Moderna** or **Pfizer** booster will have the desired effect of boosting the individual's immune system against COVID-19.

Individuals aged 12-17 who received the second dose of the Pfizer vaccine at least 5 months ago can only get the Pfizer booster vaccine.

COVID-19 Guidance

Qualified Vendor COVID-19 Reporting and Technical Assistance Guidance

<https://bit.ly/qv-covid-pos>

- Removed the requirement for reporting employee/subcontractor status.
- Removed definition section.
- Removed requirement to confirm that PCP or local hospital and county health department is notified.
- Added guidance on use/submission of home kit tests.
- Removed requirement to identify Designated Lead.
- Revised the information required in the Incident Report.
- Streamlined language for QV to request technical assistance from DDD Quality Management.
- Revised DDD Health Care Services responsibilities.
- Clarified that negotiated rates may be provided to QV for in-home services to deliver COVID 19 Positive Care.
- Provided additional guidance for requesting extension of approved negotiated rates.

COVID-19 Guidance

COVID-19 QVA Guidance For Congregate Settings and Direct Care Workers

<https://bit.ly/qvcsg-322>

- Adjusted grammar throughout to simplify where possible.
- Updated guidance on daily screening of employees and members before they enter the setting.
- Updated visitation guidelines to align with new Community Level guidance from CDC and added new link to ADHS visitation guidelines.
- Removed outdated section about “other people who could potentially be defined as close contacts (per the CDC)”.
- Added CDC link to Return to Work Criteria for HCPs who are exposed to individuals with confirmed positive cases.

COVID-19 Updates

AHCCCS COVID Flexibilities

- Virtual case management visits for ALTCS members.
- Reimbursement for parents offering direct care to minor children.
- Virtual supervisory visits of Direct Care Workers.
- Home delivered meals.
- Services to support remote learning.

Article Revisions

The Department of Economic Security (Department) is revising multiple Articles in Title 6 Arizona Administrative Code (A.A.C.) Chapter 6.

- [Article 10 and 11](#)
- [Article 15](#)
- [Articles 1, 6, 8, 12, 13, 16, 22, and 23 \(consolidation\)](#)

DDD is requesting **written** public comments on the current rules drafts.

- Email: ceide@azdes.gov
- Mail: Arizona Department of Economic Security, ATTN: Christian Eide, P.O. Box 6123, Mail Drop 111G, Phoenix, AZ 85007

Tribal Health Program

Effective April 1, 2022, DDD will enter into an agreement with the AHCCCS' Division of Fee-for-Service Management (DFSM) who will administer physical and behavioral health service authorizations for American Indian/Alaska Native members enrolled in the DDD Tribal Health Program (THP).

- DDD will retain full responsibility for:
 - Case management (Support Coordination),
 - Care coordination,
 - Authorization of HCBS and other Long Term Services and Supports.

Tribal Health Program

How Will This Change Impact DDD THP Members?

- Members will continue to be eligible for the same services and benefits.
- Members will continue to use the existing fee-for-service provider network.

DDD has published a website with details about this transition

- <https://bit.ly/ddd-ffs>

Questions about THP?

- Contact DDD Tribal Health Coordinator: Eva Bighorse - ebighorse@azdes.gov

Announcements

Public Comment

Habilitation, Enhanced Behavioral Group Home RFQVA Specification

- <https://bit.ly/dddrfqvareview>
- Friday, March 11, 2022

Licensed Health Aide Service Specification

- <https://bit.ly/ddd-qvpc>
- Friday, April 1, 2022



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Questions?



DES/DDD Town Hall, March 3, 2022

Parents of Minor Children as Paid Caregivers

Background

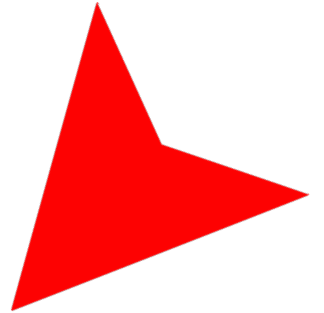
- Temporary authority granted by CMS to permit this flexibility during the PHE under a special 1135 PHE Waiver to:
 - Support family choice in deciding whether or not to allow DCWs in their homes to mitigate risk exposure
 - Ensure continuity of services if DCWs were sick or decided not to work
- Under the 1115 waiver, AHCCCS does not have authority for this flexibility outside of the PHE
- The PHE is currently planned to end on April 16, 2022, and authority for this flexibility is set to end on June 30, 2022 (at the end of the quarter in which the PHE ends).

Proposed Flexibility Extension

- The American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) provides AHCCCS an opportunity to fund an extension of the flexibility through March 31, 2024.
- This provides a transition period to:
 - Leverage ARPA funding to expand the pool of qualified DCWs
 - Support parents, support coordinators and providers to plan and recruit for qualified DCWs to meet the member's needs
 - Planning should start early
 - Planning can include the preparation and recruitment of other family members

Parent Requirements Post-PHE

- Flexibility is limited to attendant care services
- Employed or contracted by an agency
- Passing DCW Level One competency tests
- Compliance with Electronic Visit Verification
- Parents are limited to 40 hours of paid care in a given week.
 - The member's authorized hours are assessed and determined through the person centered planning process
 - If the member is authorized more than 40 hours per week, a non-parent DCW must provide the care.



ARPA Workforce Development Plans

- The ARPA plan includes a number of different initiatives to help recruit and retain a qualified workforce
 - Incentivizing people to join the workforce
 - Helping providers develop recruitment and retention strategies to meet their memberships needs
 - Enhancing training to build competencies to meet member needs
 - Developing career pathway opportunities

Questions?

Thank You.