



DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC SECURITY

Your Partner For A Stronger Arizona



**Division of Developmental Disabilities - Town Hall
June 25, 2020**

Agenda

- COVID-19 Update
- Available Behavioral Health Support
- Available Family Support
- AHCCCS Electronic Visit Verification (EVV)
- Placeholder for AzEIP

COVID-19 Update

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

- 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 Update

COVID-19 Reporting – June 23, 2020

Residential Setting	Total Members	Positive COVID-19 Cases	Member Deaths
Family/Own Home	39,090	106	7
Licensed Residential Setting	4,923	146	8
Total	44,013	252	15

Data gathered from:

- Incident Reports submitted to the Division
- Arizona Health Information Exchange
- Monday Close of Business Data Posted on Tuesday.

Positive COVID-19 Reporting and Technical Assistance

- Requires the vendor to submit an incident report and tells the vendor how the Quality Management Unit and Health Care Services Teams will support the vendor
- Guidance was updated June 23, to provide additional guidance to vendors regarding negotiated rates in DDD Group Homes to provide care for members who are positive for COVID-19.

Assessing Risk

- Published guidance on June 15, 2020
- Targeted toward vendors and planning teams
 - Members who live with other members
 - Either they are high risk or another member in home is high risk or they need extra precautions
 - Planning team must work together to develop strategies that mitigate risk of COVID-19 exposure to the home
 - Vendor can implement mitigation strategies to protect other members and staff
 - These mitigation strategies are not considered a rights restriction

Training Updates

- Vendor announcement June 17, 2020
- Updated FAQ on DDD Actions Related to COVID-19 page
- DDD had implemented 90-day extension for expired or expiring certifications
 - CPR/First Aid and Prevention & Support
 - New extension has been granted through September 18, 2020
- Article 9 training will continue to be available via video conferencing
- Article 9 new instructor training will be available with reduced class sizes
- Existing Article 9 and Prevention & Support instructors with expiring certifications will have option for observed teaching for recertification

COVID-19 Update

Governor Ducey Executive Order – Continuing Arizona Mitigation Efforts

- Updated guidance for all businesses
- Additional funding for PPE supplies in Long Term Care facilities
- Enabling local authorities to implement face cover requirements
- State, County and City Agencies have enforcement authority

Cities and Counties Requiring Face Coverings in Public Include:

- Avondale
- Carefree
- Casa Grande
- Chandler
- Flagstaff
- Gilbert
- Glendale
- Goodyear
- Guadalupe
- Litchfield Park
- Mesa
- Nogales
- Payson
- Peoria
- Phoenix
- Santa Cruz County
- Scottsdale
- Surprise
- Tempe
- Tolleson
- Tucson
- Yuma County



What's Next for DDD

- DDD is monitoring Vendor reopening plans. DDD Quality Management staff reviewing Providers' Policies, Procedures and Mitigation Strategies before reopening.
- DDD is requiring Qualified Vendors to attest to following the CDC, ADHS, and DDD guidelines.

Available Behavioral Health Support

Behavioral Health Support for Members and Families

- Peer and family support agencies are equipped to quickly provide virtual behavioral health support, tips and guidance.
- They are able to assist a member who may have unique worries associated with the fear of COVID-19 as well as difficulty with adjustments to normal activities as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Agencies are able to evaluate the member to determine if a behavioral health referral is needed in addition to their current supports.
- Families or staff can contact these agencies directly

DDD has resources available on its COVID-19 webpage under the “Resources for Families and Members” section: https://bit.ly/DDD_COVID19Actions

Available Family Support

Raising Special Kids

- Parent to Parent Mentoring
 - Confidential
 - Similar Experiences
 - Support
 - Guidance
 - Offered at no Charge
 - Available in Spanish
 - Monitored and Evaluated at 2, 4, and 8 Weeks
 - Call or Complete the Self-Referral Form Online
 - 602-242-4366 or 800-237-3007
 - <https://www.tfaforms.com/4664831>
 - 98% of parents have reported that Parent-to-Parent support is helpful.



AHCCCS Electronic Visit Verification (EVV)

- AHCCCS is using EVV to help ensure, track and monitor timely service delivery and access to care for members. The DDD Services impacted are:
 - Attendant Care
 - Homemaker/Housekeeping
 - Habilitation Hourly
 - Home Health (Nursing)
 - Respite
 - Skills Training and Development
 - Applies to all providers of these services, including paid family direct care workers
- azahcccs.gov/evv





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Questions?



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AzEIP and COVID19 Response

AzEIP COVID Response



Share
information
on AzEIP
functions



Discuss
expectations for
AzEIP providers
during COVID



Questions or
Comments

Overview of AzEIP services and functions

- AzEIP is the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act Part C (IDEA Part C) Program
 - AzEIP provides services to children Birth to 3 who are eligible for the program
 - Referrals continue to be processed and eligibility coordinated with all service providing agencies:
 - AzEIP Contractors, DDD and the Arizona Schools for the Deaf and Blind (ASDB) are service providing agencies for AzEIP services
 - AzEIP coordinates transitions out of the program including to preschool special education programs
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Overview of AzEIP COVID Response

- All AzEIP service providing agencies are providing services by using alternative service delivery methods in accordance with AzEIP guidance.
 - AzEIP notified all families in March of change to alternative service delivery methods.
 - AzEIP has updates and relevant resources on the AzEIP website.
 - Referrals have decreased by as much as 50% since March.
 - Service providing agencies have been working on child find activities.
 - AzEIP is continuing to work with all service providing agencies and community partners to coordinate our response and identify resources needed for continued success and flexibility in our response.
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Referrals to AzEIP

Process Expectations

- Referrals are received from multiple sources including doctors, schools, childcare centers, families and other professionals
- Referrals are processed including a call within 2 days, an initial visit in 10 days and determination of eligibility and development of Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP) within 45 days.

Adjustments due to COVID

- Timelines and expectations remain the same for all referrals
 - Activities are being completed either telephonically or through tele-intervention visits.
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IFSPs and Services

Process Expectations

- IFSPs and services are expected to be delivered in a timely manner with the participation of the IFSP team including the family.
- IFSP services are in accordance with AzEIP policies and procedures with the expectation that the focus is on family support in everyday routines and activities.
- Families must be at minimum contacted once a month by Service Coordinator (SC).

Adjustments due to COVID

- Timelines and expectations remain the same for all services.
 - SCs are expected to continue to reach out to families to assess preference for service delivery method and adjust as needed.
 - Alternative service delivery methods are being utilized based on family preference and access to technology.
 - SCs must attempt to coordinate access to resources for families to ensure support through this process.
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Transition out of AzEIP

Process Expectations

- SCs and IFSP teams must coordinate a plan for all families transitioning out of AzEIP
- With Consent, the SC will coordinate transition meetings with the local school district.
- A Transition Planning Meeting is expected by the time the child is 2 years, 6 months (2.6) including a referral to the local school (PEA Referral).
- A Transition conference is to be held with the school by the time the child is 2.9.

Adjustments due to COVID

- Timelines and expectations remain the same for all transition activities.
- SCs are expected to connect with the local school district to coordinate the appropriate transition activities in accordance with the local school approach.
- SCs must attempt to ensure steps are completed timely and coordinate with the team if additional resources or activities are needed due to the COVID situation and local conditions.

Resources and Information

- AzEIP Website: <https://des.az.gov/services/disabilities/developmental-infant>
 - Early Childhood Technical Assistance Center: <https://ectacenter.org/topics/disaster/coronavirus.asp>
 - Early Childhood Personnel Center: <https://ecpcta.org/covid-19-resources/>
 - Division for Early Childhood: <https://www.dec-sped.org/covid-19>
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Questions?