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## **ODP Updated Guidance HCBS in Counties Designed by the Governor as Yellow Phase**

ODP released an updated version of [Announcement 20-052](#) to provide updated guidance to stakeholders about Governor Wolf's announcement of counties that are moving to the "yellow phase" and provide service-specific guidance to ODP stakeholders. **The updated guidance appears in red in the document.**

Individuals who are COVID-19 positive or suspected positive should continue to self-isolate regardless of the color designation of the county where they reside. Individuals who are COVID-19 positive or suspected positive **should not** be engaging in community activities.

During the yellow phase some face-to-face and community activities may resume. This updated communication provides guidance for services rendered face-to-face and in the community in counties which are in the yellow phase. Please note for any HCBS that are occurring in counties remaining in the red phase, screening protocols and mask use described at the end of this document should be followed.

It is highly encouraged that the Individual Support Plan (ISP) teams use the ODP Individual Transition Guide (issued May 11th) in conjunction with the probe guidance in the annotated ISP to assess risk associated with COVID-19 and determine for each individual who resides in a county which is in the yellow phase which services and/or community activities may be resumed or started and what supports the individual must receive in order to be able to safely resume activities or engage in new activities. In situations where the ISP team has not met, activities in the community and necessary supports for those activities should be established by the individual, family, and currently authorized service providers using the ODP Individual Transition Guide.

### **Screening Guidance**

Providers must screen the following:

- Direct service professionals or other staff, contractors or consultants that render
- face-to-face services to individuals.
- Family or friends with whom the individual will have face-to-face visits.
- Individuals receiving services. Screening of individuals is not required if they are
- currently diagnosed with COVID-19.

### **Screening Questions:**

- Do you have a fever equal to or higher than 100.0 degrees or respiratory symptoms such as new or worsening cough, shortness of breath, or sore throat?
- In the past 14 days, have you had a potential exposure to COVID-19? *A potential exposure means a household contact or having close contact within 6 feet of an individual with confirmed or suspected COVID-19 for at least 10 minutes. The timeframe for having contact with an individual includes the period of time of 48 hours before the individual became symptomatic.*

- Are you currently diagnosed with COVID-19, have a test pending for COVID-19 or been told by a medical provider that you may or do have COVID-19?

**Additional Screening Considerations for Individuals with ID/A:**

In addition to the typical symptoms of COVID-19 as identified by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), ODP providers have noted that for individuals with ID/A, COVID-19 infection has caused muscle aches, weakness or a change in baseline behavior without or prior to respiratory symptoms emerging. Providers should closely observe individuals for weakness or other changes in behavior that may be indicative of illness.

**Screening Guidance for Residential Settings**

Residential providers should continue to follow the Long-Term Care Guidance for Screening and Infection Control established by the CDC which can be found [here](#).