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## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Executive Directors, DSN Boards  
CEOs, Contracted Service Providers  
Residential Directors  
Day Program Directors  
Regional Center Facility Administrators

**FROM:** Lori Manos, Associate State Director-Policy 

**DATE:** August 17, 2022

**SUBJECT:** Changes to Directives Associated with Crisis Management and Behavioral Support Needs

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The South Carolina Department of Disabilities and Special Needs (DDSN) has recently updated two directives related to crisis management and behavioral support needs:

- [567-04-DD: DDSN Approved Crisis Prevention Curricula List and Curriculum Approval Process](#)
- [600-05-DD: Behavior Supports, Psychotropic Medications and Prohibited Practices](#)

The goal of these updates is to ensure providers train staff using approved curricula in order to effectively and safely interact with participants in challenging circumstances. It is important for direct support staff to understand the expectations of DDSN when working in these situations, and to respond with appropriate physical touch only when less intrusive interactions have failed AND the person is at risk of self-injury or injury of others. The approved curricula referenced in [Directive 567-04-DD](#): reflect this philosophy.

DDSN also acknowledges that restrictive interventions may be necessary at times to protect participants and provider staff. Prohibited interventions are explicitly listed in [Directive 600-05-DD](#).

Providers are reminded that any time restraints are used in an emergency situation, a critical incident should be reported through [DDSN's Incident Management System](#). In addition, if a participant being served by your agency has restraints as part of their behavior support plan, that plan needs to be submitted for review to DDSN.

Finally, DDSN will be hosting a webinar in the fall (date and time TBD) to review and highlight important information reflected in these directive updates. We encourage all providers to attend as available. Thank you.