![South Carolina Department of Disabilities and Special Needs logo]

Emergency Operations Center (EOC): EOC@DDSN.SC.GOV; 803-898-9754
SITUATIONAL REPORT NO. 14 DATE: APRIL 15, 2020
EVENT COVID-19 PANDEMIC

I. THE ADMINISTRATION FOR COMMUNITY LIVING (ACL) AND THE CENTER FOR MEDICARE AND MEDICAID SERVICES (CMS) PROMISING PRACTICES TRAINING SERIES: (CLICK HERE)

The ACL and CMS are hosting a monthly Webinar series to assist states and stakeholders in developing high quality programs to address social determinants of health (SDOH) and provider capacity building in home and community based services (HCBS). The first webinar of the service will be held April 23, 2020 from 3:00-5:00. Click the link above for more information and to register.

II. NEW PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT (PPE) RESOURCE: (CLICK HERE)

South Carolina has launched an Emergency Supply Collaborative web portal to connect providers with organizations in need of PPE. This is a joint effort between SCMEP, the SC Hospital Association, the SC Department of Commerce, and SCBIO, to recruit community partners with ability to quickly source or provide needed medical supplies to support SC's COVID-19 response. The 24/7 online portal connects parties in need of essential supplies and equipment with those that can provide those things quickly and efficiently. SCMEP Team vets and connects inquiring parties to the providers, conducts transactions, arranges and plans logistics directly. Providers can fill out the "Health Care Provider Survey" on the front page.

III. DAY SERVICE REPORTING IN RESIDENTIAL SERVICES DURING COVID-19: (CLICK HERE)

A memo was distributed to providers today regarding Day Program reporting guidance. Increased regularity of reporting is requested at this time in order to better assess the frequencies and amount of services being provided related to delivery modifications from COVID- 19 issues.

IV. SLP I GUIDANCE FOR COVID-19:

The provision of services for individuals living in SLP I settings should continue as it has in the past, and may need to be increased in order to assist these individuals in coping with the changes that have been placed on all of us. SLP I Guidance and a SLP I Coordinator Monitoring Guide have been developed to assist in serving these individuals. For additional information, visit the links below.

SLP I Guidance- (CLICK HERE)
SLP I Coordinator Monitoring Guide- (CLICK HERE)

V. ECONOMIC STIMULUS PAYMENTS:

The IRS announced via Twitter on Saturday, April 11, 2020, that the first Economic Impact Payments had been deposited into recipients' bank accounts.

The House Ways and Means Committee estimates that the IRS will make about 60 million direct deposit payments in mid-April. This group will primarily include households whose direct deposit information is already on file with the IRS from their 2018 or 2019 tax return.

Next, the IRS will make a second round of April payments to [Social Security beneficiaries](#) who don't file a tax return *and* receive their payments by direct deposit. It isn't clear which wave will include Americans who haven't filed or haven't given the IRS their direct deposit information previously, although the IRS has outlined steps to allow people in these groups to get their payments direct deposited.

Finally, paper checks will begin to be sent in early May to taxpayers who didn't get theirs through direct deposit, although this process is expected to take as long as 20 weeks, as the IRS has the capacity to issue only about five million checks per week.

Please be on the lookout for these deposits.

VI. NON-FILERS ECONOMIC IMPACT PAYMENT FILING TOOL:

The IRS has created a tool for non-filers to use to qualify for the Economic Impact Payments. Note, at this time, this is still a requirement for those individuals served that have not filed a return and receive only SSI or VA benefits. DDSN will send an update with any change in this requirement. For additional information see the following link:

https://www.irs.gov/coronavirus/non-filers-enter-payment-info-here

VII. AUDITOR TRAINING SESSIONS OFFERED:

DDSN audit directives were updated to establish an auditor training opportunity. Since many providers have year-ends that just ended (March 31) or are right around the corner (June 30), DDSN will begin offering this training in April and May. Two different dates have been established at this time. DDSN will announce additional dates later in the year for those that have year-ends of Sept 30 or Dec 31. The two training offerings at this time are as follows:

April 30TH - 9:30 AM to 11:30 AM
May 12TH- 9: 00 AM to 11:00 AM

Currently, DDSN anticipates holding the April session *only virtually*. The May session may be offered in-person and virtually depending on what happens with the social distancing mandate.

While this training is not mandated at this time, it is ***highly recommended*** that auditors and providers attend the training. The goal of the training is to convey information to both parties to improve audit quality, drive consistency among providers, improve our ability to report our Medicaid allowable CPE accurately, and provide training related to AUP tasks that are fairly complicated, involved, and no formal audit guide exists. Providers should attend since they can benefit from hearing what auditors/CPAs are being asked to do and what to look for.

At this time, DDSN is trying to determine if 2 CPE hours can be offered for this training if provided virtually and is awaiting a ruling from the Board of Accountancy. There is no cost to attend.

Please sign up for a session using https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/FX9RBPY.

Note that the sessions are repeats, so there is not a need to attend more than one session. Individuals may attend both sessions if it would be beneficial. DDSN requests providers to forward this link to their CPA/Auditor immediately and ask them to sign up for one of the sessions. Providers and auditors should sign up as soon as possible - ideally by April 24th. Each person attending needs to respond to the survey.

If additional sessions and needed due to scheduling conflicts, then DDSN will certainly consider this. The desire it to make the training widely available since the underlying goal is to help DDSN providers and auditors/CPAs. Links to the actual training sessions will be sent to those that sign up for those sessions at a later time. Handouts and other materials will also be disseminated prior to/during/after the sessions.

VIII. A GUIDE TO COVID-19 AND EARLY DEVELOPMENT: (CLICK HERE)

This guide from the Harvard Center pulls together information on COVID-19, including what it means for child development, and shareable resources that can help parents, caregivers, child care providers, pediatricians, and others who work with families.