

DDSN Executive Memo

TO: EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS, DSN BOARDS

CEOS, CONTRACTED SERVICE PROVIDERS

REGIONAL CENTER FACILITY ADMINISTRATORS

RESIDENTIAL DIRECTORS

FROM: MARY POOLE, STATE DIRECTOR

DATE: OCTOBER 6, 2020

RE: State Long Term Care Ombudsman On-Site Visits

Since March 2020, the South Carolina Long Term Care Ombudsman Program (SCLTCOP) has suspended their inperson visits to residents in DDSN-contracted residential service locations. As of October 1, the Ombudsmen will resume in-person visits in accordance with SCLTCOP issued guidance.

When entering residential service locations, Ombudsmen will comply with the provider agency's screening and hand hygiene protocols, maintain physical distance of at least six feet from others, and wear appropriate PPE. Ombudsmen will provide their own hand sanitizer and PPE. When possible, Ombudsmen will meet with residents outdoors. Ombudsmen are self-monitoring for COVID-19 symptoms, and they will not conduct visits when they are ill. Ombudsmen will be required to follow CDC guidelines regarding isolation and quarantine precautions if the Ombudsman has symptoms of COVID-19.

For more information, please refer to the attached memo from the State Long-Term Care Ombudsman's Office.

Thank you for all that you continue to do for people with disabilities in South Carolina.

Attachment