

---

# BE D·B·H·D·D

Georgia Department of Behavioral Health & Developmental Disabilities

DBHDD Provider Web-Ex  
May 21<sup>st</sup>, 2020





**D·B·H·D·D**

Georgia Department  
of Behavioral Health  
& Developmental  
Disabilities

**BE D·B·H·D·D**

**BE COMPASSIONATE**

**BE PREPARED**

**BE RESPECTFUL**

**BE PROFESSIONAL**

**BE CARING**

**BE EXCEPTIONAL**

**BE INSPIRED**

**BE ENGAGED**

**BE ACCOUNTABLE**

**BE INFORMED**

**BE FLEXIBLE**

**BE HOPEFUL**

**BE CONNECTED**

**BE D·B·H·D·D**

# Today's agenda

Shelter in Place Order

Office of Health and Wellness

Sunrise Phase- New Possibilities

Questions & Answers

# Executive Order: Reviving a Healthy Georgia

---

**BE D·B·H·D·D**

Georgia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities

Monica A. Patel, Esq. | Director of  
Legal Services

May 21, 2020



# Disclaimer

This presentation does not constitute legal advice.

Providers should seek their own legal advice from their own attorneys on these subjects.

DBHDD does not guarantee that the topics discussed herein will ensure your compliance with all laws applicable to you or your circumstances.

# State of Public Health Emergency

On March 14, 2020 Governor Brian Kemp issued an Executive Order declaring a Public Health State of Emergency in Georgia

On April 8, 2020 the Public Health State of Emergency was renewed until May 13, 2020

On April 30, 2020 the Public Health State of Emergency was renewed **until June 12, 2020**

# Shelter in Place Order

- On April 2, 2020 Governor Kemp issued an Executive Order mandating Georgians to shelter in place, with certain exceptions.
- On April 30, 2020, Governor Kemp lifted the shelter in place order **for most Georgians.**
- **However**, Georgians more at risk for severe illness must still shelter in place until June 12, 2020 under the Executive Orders that are still in effect. The next slides outline which Georgians must still shelter in place.

# Populations at Higher Risk of Severe Illness

1. Individuals 65 and older
2. Individuals in a nursing home or long-term care facility, including inpatient hospice, assisted living communities, personal care homes, intermediate care homes, community living arrangements, and community integration homes.



## Populations at Higher Risk of Severe Illness Cont'd

3. Individuals with chronic lung disease
4. Individuals with moderate to severe asthma
5. Individuals with severe heart disease
6. Individuals with class III or severe obesity

## Populations at Higher Risk of Severe Illness Cont'd

7. Individuals who are immunocompromised. Many conditions can cause a person to be immunocompromised, including cancer treatment, smoking, bone marrow or organ transplantation, immune deficiencies, poorly controlled HIV or AIDS, and prolonged use of corticosteroids and other immune weakening medication.

## Populations at Higher Risk of Severe Illness Cont'd

8. Individuals diagnosed with diabetes, liver disease, and individuals with chronic kidney disease undergoing dialysis.

# Exceptions

Conducting or  
participating in  
essential  
services

Performing  
necessary  
travel

Engaging in  
gainful  
employment  
(or travel to  
and from) in  
critical  
infrastructure

# Individuals Sheltering in Place Shall Not Receive Visitors Except:

Visitors  
providing  
medical,  
BH, or  
emergency  
services or  
medical  
supplies or  
medication

Visitors  
providing  
support to  
conduct  
activities of  
daily living

Visitors  
providing  
necessary  
supplies  
and  
services

Visitors  
received  
during end-  
of-life  
circumstan  
ces

# Exception

- Exception to shelter in place requirement in the event of any emergency.
- Individuals should relocate to a safe alternate location.

# DBHDD I/DD COMMUNITY SETTINGS REOPENING INITIAL RECOMMENDATIONS

---

**BE D·B·H·D·D**

Georgia Department of Behavioral Health & Developmental Disabilities

Office of Health and Wellness

[Clinical.Oversight@dbhdd.ga.gov](mailto:Clinical.Oversight@dbhdd.ga.gov)



“ For tomorrow belongs to those  
who prepare for it today ”

~ African Proverb



# Focus Areas

- 1 The blueprint established by executive order
- 2 The intended outcomes of recommendations
- 3 Emphasis on Planning
- 4 Variation of Strategy
- 5 “It will take a village”

# Governor's Executive Order

DBHDD recommends that all DBHDD-authorized providers of I/DD community access and pre-vocational services abide by order;

DBHDD also recommends providers not reopen community services before the shelter in place orders for specifically identified populations has expired or are lifted.

# Governor's Executive Order continued

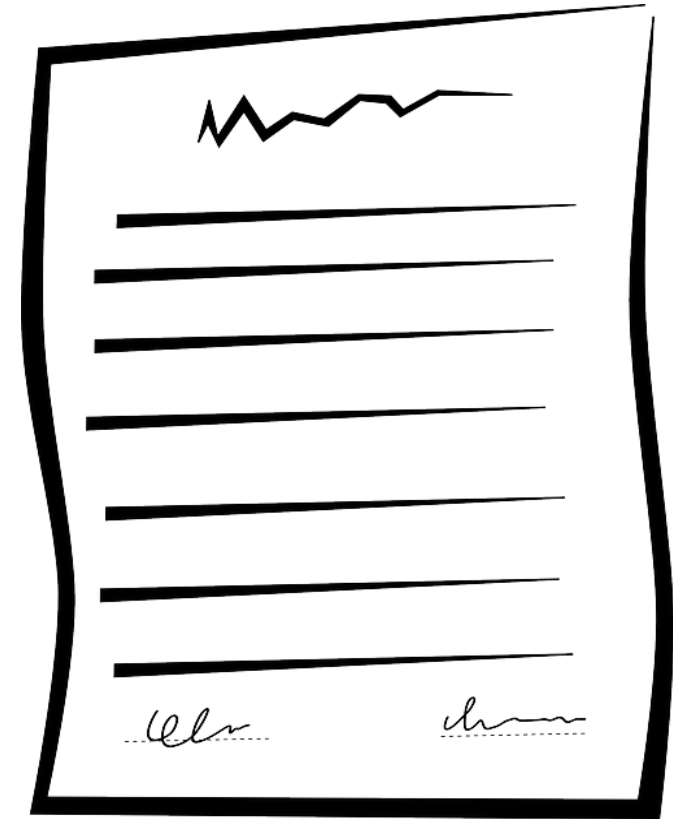
Est. General Provisions Pertaining to:

Applicable population

Preventative Action

Environmental  
Parameters/Considerations

Timeframes/Extensions





# Applicable Population

- Individuals with I/DD are often predisposed to physiological and neurological conditions that may have a profound impact on resistance to illness and/or may impair ability to comply with recommended measures of COVID-19 virus risk mitigation.




# Available Resources

- CDC (COVID-19) Coronavirus Page
  - <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>
- Department of Public Health
  - <https://dph.georgia.gov/>
- DBHDD I/DD toolkit
  - PPE Quick chart
  - Social Stories
  - COVID Fact Sheet
  - Face Masks Fact Sheet
  - Useful Information regarding PPE



# Priority

Ensuring the safety and social  
wellbeing of the population



# Goals/ Intended Outcomes

## Provider Education

- Knowing the “why” facilitates the “do”

## Prevention

- Emphasis on activities of spread mitigation softens the impact of the infection to the surrounding community

# Prevention

## Social Distancing

- 6 feet from others
- Barriers
- Reduction of gatherings

## Hand Hygiene

- Frequency
- Process
- Methods

## Cleaning and Disinfection

- Building
- Vehicles



# The Drill Down into essential elements

## “Disinfection”

Daily Cleaning

Frequent Cleaning  
(dependent upon  
usage...i.e., doorknobs,  
keyboards, light switches,  
countertops, handles, desks,  
phones, toilets, faucets and  
sinks)

With soap and water  
removes germs and  
dirt from surfaces


EPA-approved  
disinfectant against  
COVID-19 or  
alternatives

Launder-“able”  
items

Disposal  
Procedures

Staffing Training

PPE Capability with  
cleaning products



# Goals/ Intended Outcomes

## Screening/Identification of Risk

- Early detection, halts spread, facilitates indicated environmental modification, or intensification of preventative activities

## Management


- In the event of detection, a communication strategy will assist with individual monitoring and containment.
- Sustained Vigilance

# Screening Protocols require thoughtful planning and implementation

It is important to promptly identify and separate individuals who are potentially infectious. Screening and frequency thereof, helps reduce the risk of exposure.

## Elements of Screening

- Temperature
- Loss of Taste and Smell
- SOB (Shortness of Breath)
- Headache/muscle aches
- Chills
- Sore Throat



Management  
upon  
confirmation of  
exposure/positive

## Reporting Requirements

- DPH
- DBHDD
- Individuals and Families
- Care Providers
- PCP

# Emphasis On Planning

## Plan to Prevent

- Building Occupancy Caps
- Social Distancing
- Integration/transportation
- Disinfecting Proc.
- PPE (staff & indiv.)
  - Masks
  - Gloves

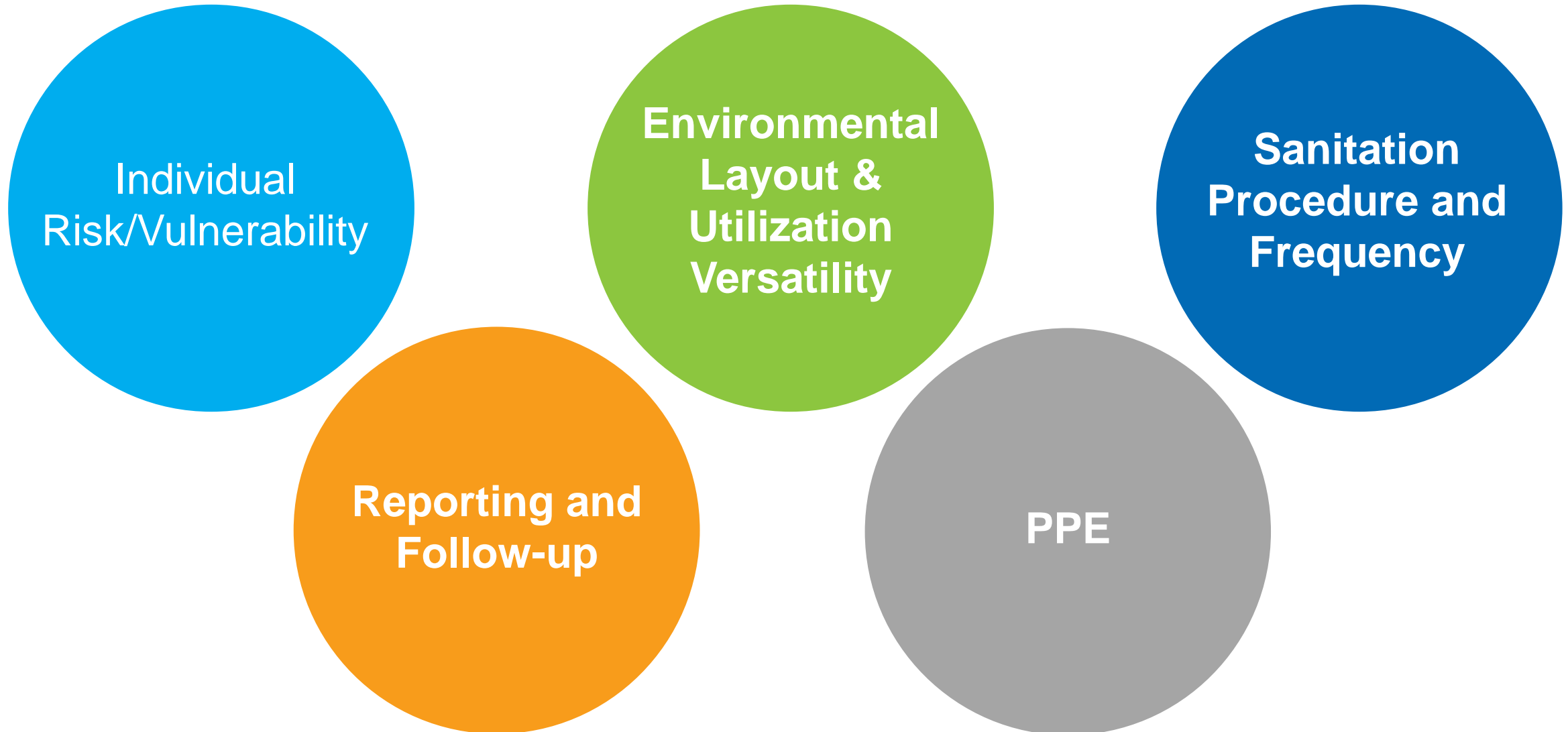
## Plan to Identify

- Education of indicators of infection
- Screening
- Responsible Reporting procedures
  - To Community Programs
  - Public Health Agency
  - Families

## Plan to Manage

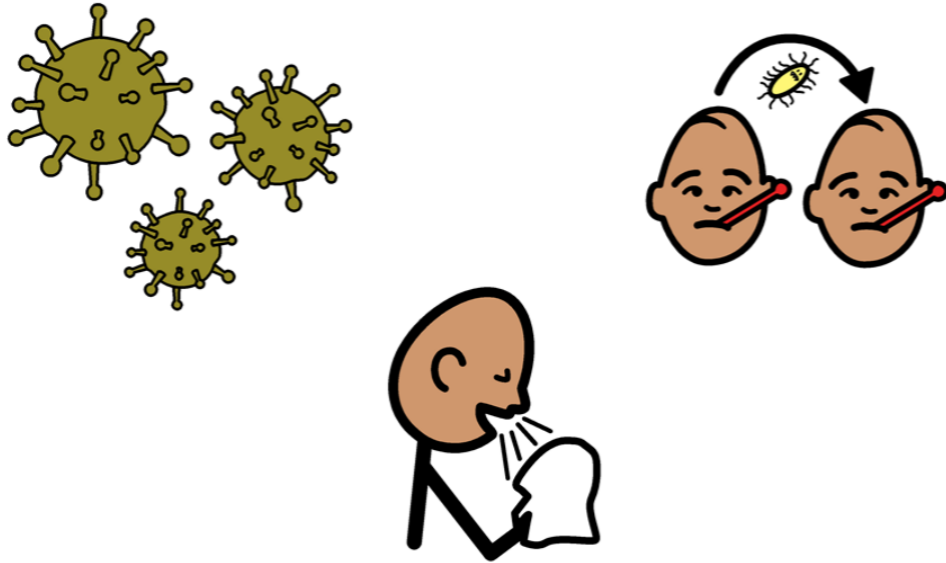
- Establish threshold for action
  - Identification of source
  - Review of reopening strategy for modification
  - Additional spread mitigation options

# Reopening Strategies will vary among programs



# COVID Healthy Social Stories

There are germs called Corona Virus that can make people sick.



- Know Your Audience

Tools intended to educate should target audiences that assist with compliance and mitigation of risk

# Consideration: Know Your Audience



washing our hands



covering our mouth when  
we cough



covering our mouth when  
we sneeze



Wearing a face mask

“Signage Helps”





# Prevention, Screening and Management Planning Works

Dr. Gundlapalli

# Summary

---

- No one knows the floorplans of community day program environments better than day program leadership
  - One plan does not fit all
  - All plans require essential elements to address
    - ☑ Preventative measures
    - ☑ Identification strategies
    - ☑ Management strategies (in the event of confirmed exposures/positives)

A close-up photograph of a hand holding a blue pen, poised to write on a spiral-bound notebook. The notebook's black spiral binding is visible on the left side. The background is a soft, out-of-focus light brown.

# **BE** INFORMED

Sunrise Phase- New Possibilities

Director of Community Services Amy Riedesel  
WISE Associate Deborah McLean  
WISE Associate Karen Williams

# A New Hierarchy Of Needs....

- Community
- Health And Safety
- Flexible Evolving Solutions
- Partnerships
- Opportunity
- Communication
- Connections



# Transitioning from facility to community services.

## 4 ways you can do remote or individual service

### Discovery

- YouTube for industry tours, preference activities, review job descriptions, social capital mapping, Preference Tests, career exploration
- <https://www.careeronestop.org/> <https://www.aeseducation.com/career-readiness>

### Tasks/Chores at Home

- What can you gather about their marketable skills? What can you teach?

### Mock Interviews

- Google sample interview questions (glassdoor.com)
- Ask a friendly employer to join you

### Build a Resume

- Pictures of tasks they did at the center/group environment
- Lists of skills they were building before COVID

# Four things we are doing differently today



BIZ TALK



EDUCATION  
TOOLS



MESSAGING



PERSPECTIVE



# Biz Talk

- Learn what is happening for businesses
- Follow Chamber of Commerce announcements and webinars
- Follow Governor's phase in stages (what companies, what guidance, envision the new jobs!)
- Pitch your business resource (recruiting, training, filling niche positions)
- Job Analysis includes a safety element.



**Trillium Employment Services**

3 mins · 🌐



If you run a gym, yoga or martial arts studio, Trillium can help you re-open safely and in conformance with the L&I COVID guidelines for fitness facilities. We can help you source a dedicated person to attend to the safety standards so you can focus on getting classes and personal training sessions back in action.

<https://www.governor.wa.gov/.../COVID19Phase2FitnessGuideline...>



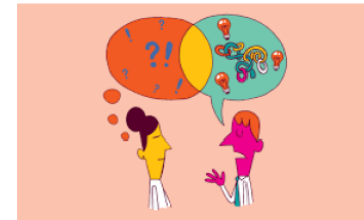
# Education Tools

- masks + physical distancing tools/visuals
- <https://paaautism.org/resource/wearing-mask-social-story/>
- 6 feet = ??
- Practice at home. Contact their employers to know what they will need to know to return to work

**Washing hands** is a good habit that keeps everybody healthy.



Lately, I've been hearing a lot about the Corona virus. It's kind of scary. It's ok to be scared or worried, everybody gets worried about viruses at times. I can talk to my parents or care giver if I am worried.



One way to protect myself from getting sick is to **wash my hands often**.





# Messaging

---

- we are a jobs program that is part of rebuilding the economy.
- collaboration with other I/DD stakeholders
- work is more than a paycheck.



# Perspective

---

- Individualized Services vs Special Programs
- Everyone is learning new safety standards and balancing risk and integration.
- Phasing back to community life looks different for everyone.
- Assume competence and support personal choice.

## Guiding Values

- **Power and Choice** – Making our own choices and directing our own lives.
- **Relationships** – Having people in our lives whom we love and care about and who love and care about us.
- **Status/Contribution** – Feeling good about ourselves and having others recognize us for what we contribute to others and our community.
- **Integration** – Being a part of our community, through active involvement. This means doing things we enjoy as well as new and interesting things.
- **Competence** – Learning to do things on our own or be supported to do things for our self.
- **Health and Safety** – Feeling safe and secure, and being healthy.

Q & A

