

Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2020 2:43 PM
To: Valerie Brennan <vbrennan@ilny.org>
Subject: FW: DOH Housing Provider- Novel Coronavirus 2019 Guidance

Dear DOH Housing Provider:

The New York State Department of Health (NYS DOH) is working across the state to ensure plans are in place to minimize the spread of the virus. We encourage you to access accurate, reliable, and up-to-date information on the NYS DOH website. www.health.ny.gov/coronavirus or call 1-888-364-3065.

Please take a moment to review the below guidance, which is based on the most current Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and NYS Department of Health (DOH) recommendations for prevention of the spread the novel coronavirus of 2019 disease (COVID-19).

Home visit guidance:

Before participant arrival or community-based visit; or when scheduling appointments, all participants should be asked the following 3 questions:

1. Have you traveled to a country for which the CDC has issued a [Level 2 or 3 travel designation](#) within the last 14 days?;
2. Have you had contact with any [Persons Under Investigation \(PUIs\) for COVID-19](#) within the last 14 days, OR with anyone with known COVID-19?; and
3. Do you have any symptoms of a respiratory infection (e.g., cough, sore throat, fever, or shortness of breath)?

If the participant responds Yes to questions 1 OR 2, AND also reports symptoms in response to question 3:

- If at home, the participant should be instructed to remain at home and contact their medical professional immediately.
- Alternatively, the participant may be referred to the nearest emergency room for immediate attention.
- **In all circumstances above, the receiving medical provider and transporter should be notified in advance and informed of potential concern for COVID-19.**

Meeting with perspective participants:

Program staff should follow any guidance from specific the setting that the perspective tenant is in (i.e. hospital, shelter, etc.). Program staff should check websites and/or call the setting before traveling to them to prevent unnecessary travel. When meeting with perspective participants, the above home guidance should be followed.

We encourage providers to share this guidance and the attached information with all staff. Our goal with these policies is to limit the spread and impact of COVID-19 on the people we serve. We will continue to monitor the situation and may have additional policies changes in the future.

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