April 16, 2020

TO: ALL ADULT AND SENIOR CARE PROGRAM LICENSEES

FROM: PAMELA DICKFOSS
Deputy Director
Community Care Licensing Division

SUBJECT: NOTIFICATION TO FAMILIES WHEN A PERSON TESTS POSITIVE FOR CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019 (COVID-19)

Provider Information Notice (PIN) Summary

PIN 20-13-ASC advises Adult and Senior Care (ASC) licensees to give notice to the families of all persons in care when a person in a facility tests positive for COVID-19.

Update: Please see NOTE on page two (2) that provides additional direction regarding similar notice to persons in care and health care professionals/individuals providing health care related support that enter the facility to provide services.

The California Department of Social Services, Community Care Licensing Division (CCLD), strives to ensure families of persons in care and facility staff are supported and informed by providing avenues for open communication and transparency related to COVID-19.

To ensure proactive communication between licensees, persons in care, their families and facility staff, this PIN provides direction to licensees related to a person testing positive for COVID-19.
Notification Regarding Person Testing Positive for COVID-19

Upon confirmation that a person in care or facility staff member has tested positive for COVID-19, and either remains in the facility or is no longer in the facility, CCLD advises ASC licensees to provide immediate notice to families of all persons in care. The notice to all families shall not disclose any personally identifiable information or protected health information about the person who tested positive for COVID-19.

In addition to the notice to all families, if a person in care tests positive for COVID-19, the licensee shall notify that person’s authorized representative, as required by applicable regulations (California Code of Regulations (CCR), Title 22, section 80061(b)(1)(H), CCR, Title 22, section 81061(b)(1)(G), CCR, Title 22, section 82061(a)(1)(F), and CCR, Title 22, sections 87211(a), and 87861(b)).

NOTE: Effective April 27, 2020, direction in this PIN is being updated to advise that notification of a person in care or facility staff member testing positive for COVID-19 should also include notification to all persons in care and health care professionals/individuals providing health care related support that enter the facility to provide services to persons in care.

Additional Resources

- California Coronavirus (COVID-19) Response
- California Department of Social Services
- California Department of Public Health
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
- Local County Health Departments

If you have any questions regarding this PIN, please contact your local Adult and Senior Care Program Office.