

## State of Connecticut Department of Developmental Services



Jordan A. Scheff Commissioner

Peter Mason Deputy Commissioner

Date: February 8, 2022

TO: DDS Qualified Providers and DDS Public Programs

FROM: Jordan A. Scheff, Commissioner

CC: Peter Mason, Deputy Commissioner; Katie Rock-Burns, Chief of Staff; Jackson Pierre-

Louis, Division Director of Quality Systems Improvement; Krista Ostaszewski, Health Management Administrator; MJ McCarthy, Director of Legal; Kevin Bronson, Director of Communications, Legislation & Regulations; Regional Directors; Assistant Regional

Directors; Regional Resource Administrators

RE: Quality and Licensing Visits

In January, the Department made the decision to temporarily pause all in-person Quality and Licensing visits due to the current Covid-19 surge experienced around the state. In the interim the Department will continue to implement the remote review process and we ask that providers actively engage in the process to ensure the health and safety of the individuals we support is maintained.

Although the state is beginning to see a decline in the statewide positivity rates, the Department has made the decision to continue to pause all in-person quality and licensing visits through the month of February. On Tuesday, March 1st, the pause will be lifted, and the in-person quality and licensing visit guidance issued from June 2021 will be reinstated.

When onsite visits resume, DDS staff will continue to follow all state and local ordinances in regard to face masks when onsite at residential and day settings and will follow all visitation protocols including screenings set forth by the department and the agency.

Thank you for your ongoing efforts during this challenging time.