



# Lifestyles for the Disabled, Inc.

930 Willowbrook Road, Bldg 15-L, Staten Island, NY 10314  
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## COVID-19 Day Services Closure Plan

In conjunction with the guidance's set by OPWDD and DOH, Lifestyles has established a closure plan should the agency need to implement a temporary closure due to the spread of COVID-19. This plan will be in effect until it has been determined by the DOH and OPWDD that the COVID-19 pandemic has subsided. The plan will cover internal closures, a system wide closure of all OPWDD programs, as well as geographic COVID-19 clusters established by the Governor of NYS.

### Internal closures

OPWDD authorized the re-opening of day services effective 7/20/2020. Lifestyles is taking a systematic approach to returning individuals to in person services. Individuals will be assigned to a small cohort of a maximum of 5 peers, and 2 staff, and cohorts will be welcomed back on a week by week basis. To ensure the health and safety of all individuals and staff the following steps are in place in the event of a presumed positive, or positive COVID-19 case presents itself.

- Temperature checks and health questionnaires are completed daily for all staff and individuals. If the temp is above 100, or if any question is answered with a yes, admission into the program will be denied. (See safety plan for specific details).
- If a staff or individual is presumed positive, they will be denied entry into the program and referred for testing. If their test results are negative, they may return with clearance from their health care professional or at the direct of the local health department.
- If a staff or individual tests positive for COVID-19 the Local health department will be contacted and a 14 day quarantine will be implemented.
- Anyone with direct contact of more than 15 minutes with someone who tests positive for COVID-19, will be asked to quarantine for 14 days, and provide a negative COVID-19 test and clearance from their health care professional before returning.
- **If 2 or more positive** COVID-19 cases are present in the same program area, that area will be temporarily closed, and deep cleaned. The local health department and OPWDD will be contacted for quarantine and contact tracing guidance. At minimum no staff or individual will be allowed to return without a negative COVID-19 test and clearance from a health care professional. The room or program area will be shut down for 24 hours prior to cleaning, and the area will not be re-opened until properly cleaned and sanitized.
- **If more than one program area** in the same facility has staff or individuals who have tested positive for COVID-19, the entire facility will be closed down for a 14 day



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quarantine. After the 14 day quarantine, the facility will be cleaned and sanitized prior to re-opening.

- If a quarantine closure is implemented, the agency will communicate the closure specific details to all parties involved via one or more of our established notification processes.(See below)
- Prior to returning to program after a program quarantine, all staff and individuals will be required to provide a negative COVID-19 test, and health clearance to return.
- The agency will report all presumed positive and confirmed positive COVID-19 cases to OPWDD's IMU, as well as to the Local health department. The agency will follow all directives from OPWDD and the LHD regarding quarantines, contact tracing, and closures.

## **System wide closure**

In the event of a system wide closure of day services due to high transmission rates of COVID-19, Lifestyles will implement the following steps.

- Should OPWDD determine that the transmission rates of COVID-19 are such that the health and safety of the individuals served are compromised, a closure date will be issued and the agency will communicate that closure date to all involved parties.
- Lifestyles will close all of its in person services, and move to a fully remote service delivery mode, by the date established by OPWDD.
- Individuals, families, caregivers and stakeholders will be notified of the closure of services immediately. Lifestyles uses several forms of communications to convey all pertinent information.
  - A telephone message will be sent to all parties using our electronic messaging service
  - Social media will be updated to include the closure notice
  - The agency website will be updated to include all closure information, as well as any updates.
  - Email messages
  - Direct phone calls
  - The Lifestyles app
  - And lastly Zoom update meetings

## **Geographic COVID-19 cluster**

The agency will be monitoring the geographic COVID-19 cluster areas designated by the Governor. In the event that the agency's day services are included in one of those clusters, or is notified by OPWDD that we operate in an area of concern, the agency will implement either



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a reduction in services or a suspension of services. This determination will be based on what level cluster zone that the program is located in.

- **Red zone-** all agency programs will be suspended until the transmission status of the geographic area is modified. Services such as SEMP, Comm Hab, CBPV, and respite, which provide a 1:1 ration will be allowed to continue, with the expectation that all individuals and staff are tested weekly.
- **Orange zone-** All certified site based programs will be suspended. All community based group programs, including day habilitation without walls, and pre-vocation, will have a reduction in capacity so that no group exceeds 10 individuals inclusive of staff. Community based non group services such as SEMP, Comm Hab, CBPV, and respite may continue with a capacity of no more than 4, inclusive of staff. Weekly testing for individuals and staff will be recommended.
- **Yellow zone-** All programs will remain open under the current health and safety plans in place. Those plans are in compliance with OPWDD's interim guidance for reopening of day services. The addition of weekly recommended testing for all staff and individuals will be added.

**In the event that Lifestyles must close any program for any of the above stated reasons, the agency will contact the Regional office as outlined in the Protocol for Reporting Impact of COVID-19 memorandum.**

Submitted by  
Barbara Bishop-Lewis  
Director of Quality Improvement