



## RESIDENTIAL SERVICES

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**Title of policy/procedure:** COVID-19 Visitation Procedures

**Policy/Procedure Updated on:** 6/18/2020

**Created By:** Residential Director

**Purpose:** To conduct visits to residential programs while ensuring the health and safety of all staff and people supported.

**Procedure:**

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Following guidance disseminated by OPWDD, visitor restrictions were implemented at all ACLD residential programs on 3/16/2020 in an effort to mitigate the spread of the COVID-19 virus.

On 6/16/2020, the NYS Governor announced that all group homes are permitted to allow visitors beginning on 6/19/2020.

In order to ensure the continued health and safety of the people supported in all residential programs, the following procedures must be implemented with regards to visitors:

1. All visits must be scheduled with the residential management team in advance to ensure that the number of visitors at any one time is limited. Residential management staff are to schedule visits for one person supported at a time and the number of visitors per person should be limited to two. Visitors under the age of 18 will not be permitted. Management staff must determine the length of each requested visit to ensure that all people supported by the program are provided the opportunity to receive a visitor if desired – in larger programs time limits on visits may be implemented to allow for the proper scheduling.
2. All people supported in the residence must be notified that a visitor will be in the residence. All people supported should be reminded to maintain social distancing from any visitors.
3. All visitors must undergo the appropriate screening prior to conducting their visit. Each visitor's temperature must be recorded – if the temperature is noted to be 100°F or higher, then the visitor may not enter the program. Additionally, each visitor must answer the pre-screening questions – if any answer recorded is “yes”,

then the visitor may not enter the program. All information must be logged on the Visitor Screening Log.

4. All visitors must wear a facemask for the duration of the visit. The mask may not be removed at any time for any reason.
5. All visitors will be asked to wash their hands upon arrival and frequently during their visit. They will also be provided hand sanitizer as needed.
6. All visitors must maintain social distancing whenever possible.
7. When possible, visits should be conducted outside, in single occupancy bedrooms, or large spacious common areas as available.
8. All visits must be conducted at the residence. People supported may not leave with visitors as community outing restrictions are still in effect.
9. Visits will not be permitted if the person supported is on isolation, quarantine, or precautionary quarantine.
10. At the completion of the visit, the areas where visitation occurred must be cleaned and sanitized by residential staff.

In the event that a visitor is denied access to the program due to elevated temperature or concerns with the pre-screening questionnaire, the residential chain of command must be contacted immediately. The Residential Assistant Director will consult with the Residential Nursing Supervisor to discuss the exposure and will implement any additional safety measures deemed necessary. The Assistant Director or Director of Nursing will determine the steps necessary for the visitor to resolve the noted concern for a repeated visitation attempt.