## STATE OF CONNECTICUT

## DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH AND ADDICTION SERVICES

A Healthcare Service Agency

NED LAMONT GOVERNOR MIRIAM E. DELPHIN-RITTMON, Ph.D. COMMISSIONER

## **MEMORANDUM**

To: DMHAS Staff

**From:** Miriam E. Delphin-Rittmon, Ph.D.

**Date:** April 2, 2020

**Subject:** DMHAS COVID-19 Staff Update #11

As the COVID-19 outbreak begins to evolve, you may have questions about how to safely do your work, your facility's infectious disease policies and procedures, and what to do if a patient or colleague is showing symptoms of COVID-19.

To help keep you informed, DMHAS has developed a <u>webpage</u> related to DMHAS's response to the COVID-19 outbreak. Here you can find press releases, staff memos, staff resources and mental health resources related to COVID-19. While many of the questions you have may be answered by the materials on the webpage, I know that there are many other questions you may have. If you have questions related to the agency's or your facility's response to the COVID-19 outbreak, I encourage you to ask your supervisor. If your supervisor is unable to answer your question, he or she will then consult with their manager, director or facility CEO so that your question can be answered. The chances are that if you have a question, it's likely that one of your colleagues has a similar concern, so it's important to ask your supervisor.

As questions are brought to my attention, we will develop a list of Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ). The FAQ will be updated regularly and posted on the webpage so that the answers to your frequently asked questions or concerns may be shared with other DMHAS staff as well.

I understand that this is a time of great uncertainty for us all. It's important that you ask any questions you may have, so that you can continue to provide the high-quality of services and care for the people we serve while feeling confident and safe.

As we begin to see an increase in COVID-19 cases in our communities, I've attached information that I thought would be helpful to you regarding your risk for exposure and transmission of COVID-19.

I cannot begin to express to you all of the gratitude I have for the work you do each and every day. Thank you.