




TO: OTPs and Residential/Congregate Living Facilities

From: Aliya Jones, M.D., MBA 

Date: September 15, 2020

RE: BHA COVID-19 Positive Test Reporting Form and Protocol for OTPs and Residential/Congregate Living Facilities

In our ongoing efforts and collaboration with you to mitigate the spread of COVID-19, and to increase BHA's awareness of COVID-19 positive cases among staff and individuals receiving care at programs at greater risk for outbreaks, we have created the attached form and protocol for reporting positive cases. The following program types, if they are licensed, certified, or funded by the BHA, should use the form to report positive cases: Opioid Treatment Programs (OTPs), Residential Crisis Beds, ASAM SUD Residential Programs, Group Homes, Recovery Residences, Residential Rehabilitation Programs (RRPs), and other Congregate Living Facilities. The form and protocol are found at the top of the [BHA COVID-19 webpage](#).

Ongoing communications with your Local Health Department, your LBHA/LAA/CSA, and BHA are critical to the State's COVID-19 response, as is our awareness of any potential decreases in access to care in local jurisdictions due to COVID-19. Therefore, BHA is directing all referenced program types to use the reporting form on the webpage to ensure BHA is aware of this critical information.

If your program experiences a positive case, you must contact your Local Health Department and LBHA/LAA/CSA for their recommendations for testing, isolation, and quarantining of patients and/or staff. Their guidance regarding admissions and when staff may return to work after a positive test result should be obtained and followed. Additionally, BHA will provide technical support and assistance as needed.

This reporting requirement is effective immediately as of the date of this memorandum. As always, I appreciate your compliance and continued support. If you have any concerns or questions, please contact BHA Medical Director Dr. Steven Whitefield at steven.whitefield@maryland.gov.