

**Monica Caserta Hutt**  
**Commissioner**  
**Commissioner's Office**  
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March 16, 2020

To: Vermont Adult Day Program Providers  
Vermont Senior Centers

From: Monica Caserta Hutt

Re: Continued Operations During COVID-19

We have received many requests for guidance and direction from all of you in relation to how best to provide care and support for the older Vermonters you serve on a daily basis. As the number of positive cases in Vermont continues to increase, our concern is to slow the spread of the virus and to flatten the curve for infection and treatment, ensuring that our health care system can keep up with the demands and ensure good outcomes for all.

Guidance and best practices continue to evolve. Considering the target populations that you support, older Vermonters and individuals with underlying and sometimes complex medical conditions, we consulted with the Vermont Department of Health. **Their recommendation, and the recommendation from DAIL, is that Senior Centers and Adult Day Programs close their programs for now.**

We would suggest that you plan to adhere to the timelines articulated in the Governor's Executive Order- although not specific to your programming- the April 15<sup>th</sup> timeline gives us a month to assess the state of our response and the trajectory for the virus. You could let participants and families know that you will re-assess after April 15<sup>th</sup>. If there are unique cases or needs that cannot be met in any other way, please let us know and we can help to develop individual solutions within the scope of our resources and the resources across the rest of the system.

In the meantime, we remain available to you here at DAIL for questions and concerns. Thanks for all you do.