

## Updates for DAIL Advisory Board Meeting 11/12/20

### PPE

1. DAIL LTC COVID Team continues to provide technical assistance to access PPE. Team members participate in the rapid response team that responds to COVID positive cases in LTC facilities.
2. In the last month, DAIL has distributed over 5800 cloth masks. 1000 went to the VT Developmental Disabilities Counsel for distribution to people who need them.
3. DAIL is working with SEOC on the next phase of statewide N95 fit testing for providers who may work with C19 positive consumers. This is a continuation of the good work that happened this summer to help over 1500 employees receive mandatory fit testing.
4. DAIL wrapped up another round of NCIT distributions to providers who need them.
5. DAIL staff (and newly minted PPE supply expert) Melanie Feddersen, with Monica White's leadership, facilitated a great meeting with external community partners to seek their help as a hub for Independent Direct Support Workers to have access to PPE/masks.

### LTC Facilities

1. DAIL published the revised LTC Facility guidelines and held a successful technical assistance call with the LTC facilities today.
2. Commissioner Hutt responded to an inquiry from Paul Heintz from Seven Days. He is working on a story about allegations of racism by residents against staffers of color at a Vermont nursing home — and the facility's apparent unwillingness to address the matter. DAIL was not previously aware of this complaint. DAIL made it clear that DAIL takes the allegations seriously, provided information about the facility regulations, and referenced the Office of Civil Rights which is the regulatory entity to investigate racism allegations. DAIL forwarded the information to Sean Londergan, the LTC Ombudsman, who was grateful for the information.
3. DAIL facilitated, along with VDH, a great technical assistance call with LTC facilities regarding COVID-19 vaccination planning.

### Adult Day

1. DAIL continues regular technical assistance calls with VDH participation.
2. DAIL published an Adult Day FAQ guidance document on the DAIL COVID web page.
3. To date, six Adult Day centers have notified DAIL of plans to reopen. Two have actually reopened. DAIL is consulting with VDH about whether the reopening plans should be put on hold.

### CRF

1. \$2M CRF was granted to Adult Day providers.
2. \$100K CRF was granted to DAs to support Eldercare Clinician services.
3. Two CRF grants were issued for Senior Meals. One for \$600K and one for \$565K (Act 154). Grants are being issued through the AAAs for payment to senior meal sights.
4. DAIL received \$700K CRF approval to be used as a one-time stipend for families of children (both minor and adult) with developmental disabilities. Grants are in process.
5. \$375K CRF was approved by JFC to help stand up beds at Burlington Health and Rehab to help with hospital flow. The goal is to free up beds at the hospital for potential COVID surge needs. Grant in process.

### Other

1. DAIL coordinated an email communication to 3394 Independent Direct Support Workers paid through ARIS. The communication is intended to solicit a response from those who are interested in additional work to potentially help the State address future staffing shortages at LTC facilities. Over 35 workers responded as interested in being included as a resource for crisis staffing needs.
2. DAIL is wrapping up the Vermont State Plan on Aging needs assessment survey. The survey generated 2500+ responses which include information about the needs of older Vermonters and their experience during COVID. Information will be used to craft goals for the next plan.
3. DAIL received AOA approval to hire two positions: ASP Assist. Dir. and Deaf, Hard of Hearing, Deafblind Services Dir.
4. DAIL finalized and disseminated the qualitative consumer experience survey for participants of Choices for Care and Developmental Services to ask about their COVID experiences as it relates to services. Responses are due by 12/31/20.