

June 11, 2020

To: All DCS Contracted Service Provider

From: Mike Faust- Director

CC: Alex Ong, Barbara Corella, Lori Noyes

Subject: Requirements for Contact Tracing if Contracted Service Provider tests positive for COVID-19

Purpose:

This document is intended to provide guidance on areas concerning contracted provider staff who have tested positive for COVID-19. It is important to note that DCS cannot provide guidance on Human Resource matters for contracted service providers. This guidance is to assist providers with decision making and provide direction when it is believed a child in DCS custody, DCS caregiver, DCS staff member or biological parent involved with DCS has been exposed to a known positive individual.

**** Important Notices ****

It is critical to understand that given the incubation period of COVID-19 that a negative diagnostic test does not guarantee that individuals are in fact negative for COVID-19. For this reason, monitoring to COVID-19 like symptoms is a continuous process

Please note that DCS guidance on contact tracing is more stringent than public health guidance. Public health may not require testing or contact tracing unless an individual is symptomatic. DCS requires contact tracing regardless of symptom and testing for all individuals identified in the contact tracing efforts.

Contracted services providers are expected to establish contact tracing process for their own organizations. In the event a staff member is positive with COVID-19 as identified in a diagnostic test, the contracted service provider is to conduct contact tracing to include contact with any DCS individual including child in DCS custody, biological parent engaged with the Department, DCS caregiver and/or employee of DCS.

Contact means the individual tested has been within 6ft of a DCS individuals for 10 or more consecutive minutes in the preceding 48 hr period when symptoms presented or an asymptomatic individual tested positive.

- Contracted service provider is required to inform the Department through the Contracts Department of an exposure of a DCS individual within 12 hrs of becoming aware of the positive test results for any of their staff. Send notice to Lori Noyes, Lori.Noyes@azdcs.gov.

- Contracted service provider who tests positive shall stay at home or under isolation precautions until at least 10 days have passed since symptoms first appeared AND at least 3 days (72 hours) have passed since resolution of fever (including fever, chills, rigors, and body/muscle aches) without the use of fever-reducing medications and improvement in respiratory symptoms (including cough, shortness of breath/difficulty breathing, sore throat, and loss of taste or smell).

- Contracted service provider who is awaiting test results should follow the contracted providers HR instructions regarding return to work until results are received.
 - If the contracted provider permits the employee to return to work DCS requires that the individual wear a facial covering when having dealings with any DCS individual

- If an employee has tested negative for COVID-19 and has compatible symptoms (fever, cough, shortness of breath) they should stay at home or under isolation precautions until at least 3 days (72 hours) have passed since resolution of fever (including fever, chills, rigors, and body/muscle aches) without the use of fever-reducing medications **AND** improvement in respiratory symptoms (e.g., cough, shortness of breath)

- If an employee has tested negative for COVID-19 and has no compatible symptoms they may return to work without restriction.