



Developmental Disabilities Administration (DDA) Updates

Bernard Simons, DDA Deputy Secretary

November 13, 2020



Deputy Secretary's Agenda



- Opening Remarks
- Deputy Secretary Update
- COVID-19 Regional Update
- Heather Saunders, MPH, RN, CIC, Nursing Program Consultant at the Maryland Department of Health
- Questions

Deputy Secretary's Opening Remarks

- The DDA's highest priority is the health, safety, and wellbeing of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities, their families, staff, and providers
- The DDA is committed to transparency with all of our stakeholders to ensure we are all working with the same information to support our shared missions
- Thank you for your continued support in joining me during these webcast so that we can stay in-touch and be able to provide you with the most current information

Deputy Secretary's Update

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

- The DDA has given out five (5) rounds of PPE across all regions
- The DDA will continue to advocate to get another round of PPE
- Please contact your local health departments to receive PPE
- If you are having a hard time getting PPE from your local health department, please contact your Regional Director
- Providers are urged to advocate at their local level as the Governor has encouraged county leaders to utilize some of their remaining CARES Act resources to build up the supplies of critical PPE, particularly gloves, gowns, and masks

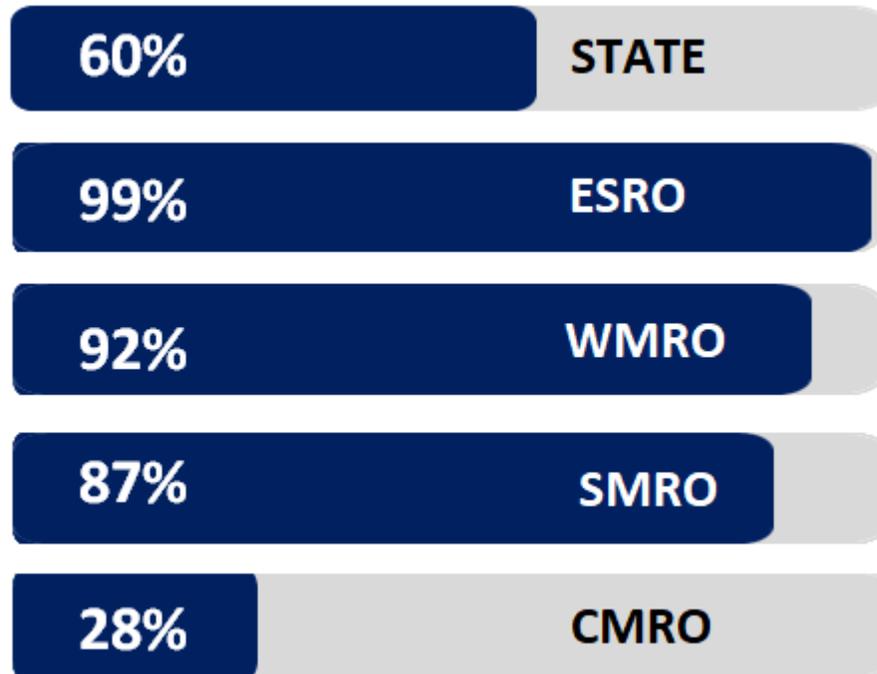
Deputy Secretary's Update

- The DDA is working closely with our partners at Medicaid, with CMS, and with NASDDDS to continue to offer flexibilities through the Appendix K
- We are working with CMS and Medicaid to remove the requirement for consecutive days in our Appendix K so that providers can access up to 30 total days. We will share additional information and guidance once available
- We will also look to extend the Appendix K, as needed. We will keep you informed as we learn more from CMS

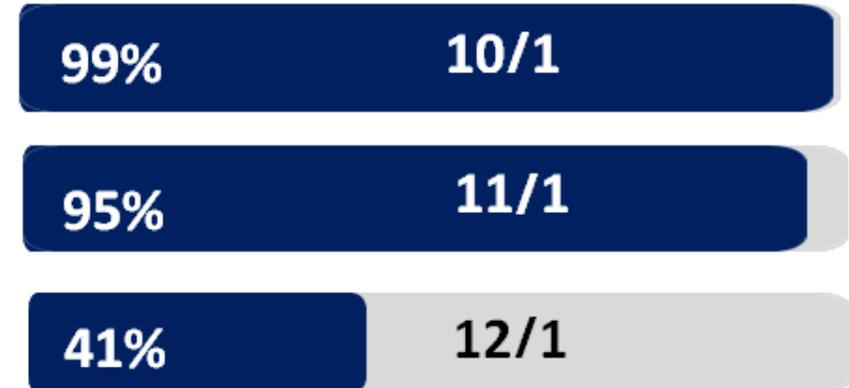
Deputy Secretary's Update

The following chart measure the % of Personal Supports PCPs that have been verified by regional office staff and data tracking from LTSSMaryland

By Region



By Go-Live Date



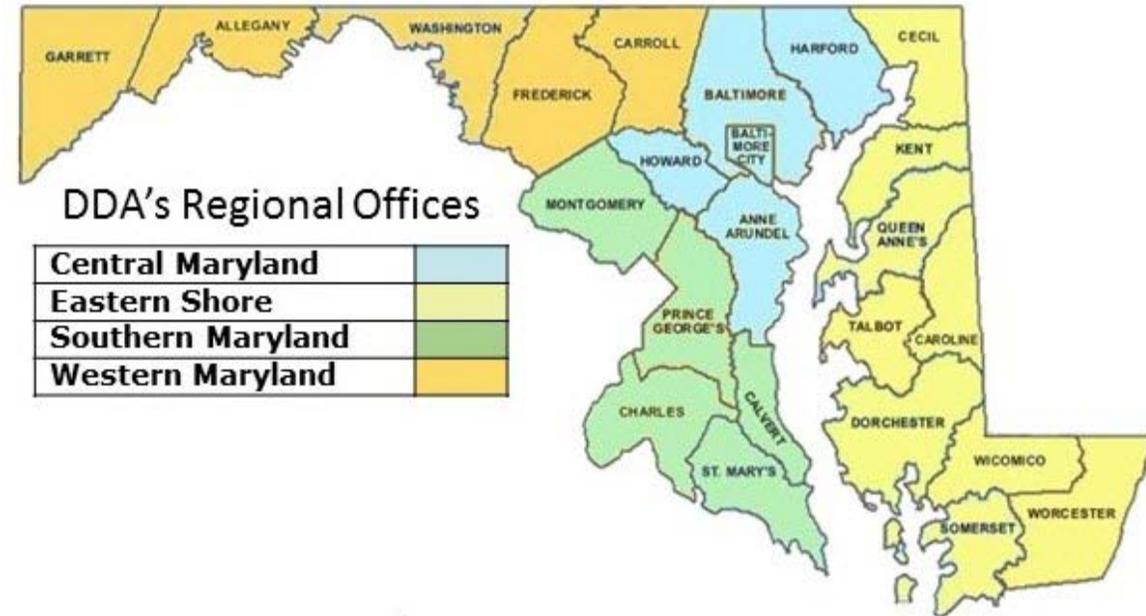
Deputy Secretary's Update

ISAS Billing Data

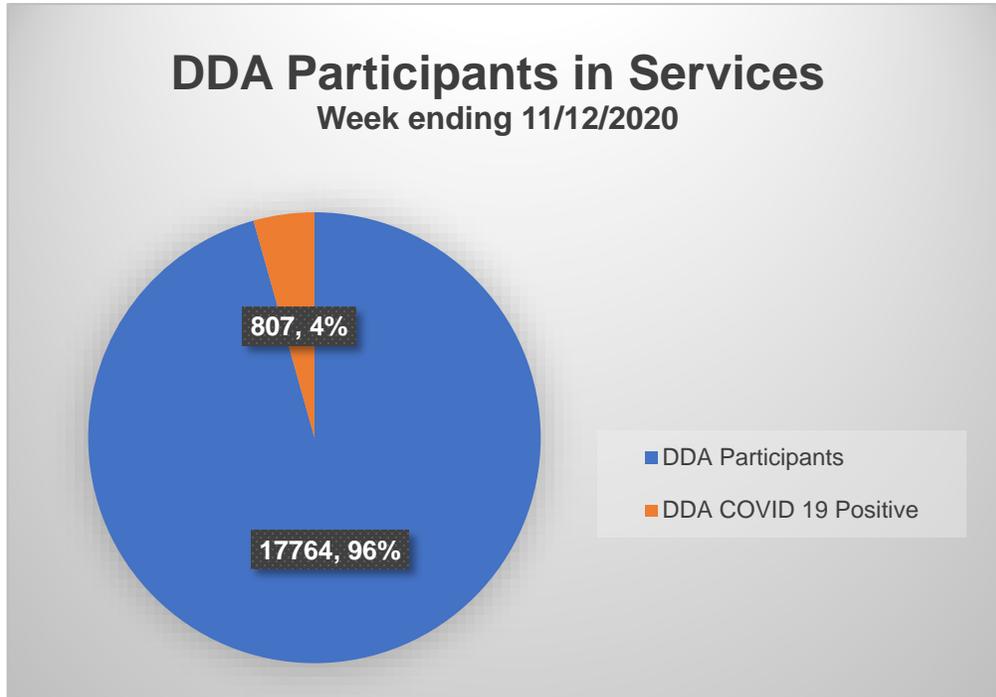
11/1/2020 Go-Live Summary				LTSSMaryland Data	
Last Updated Time:				11/9/2020 8:13 AM	
Region	Go-Live Date	Total Clients In Region	% IVR Usage	# of Clients Success	# of Successful Clock-in/Out
Total		1590	52.20%	830	14952
Southern	11/1/2020	1026	45.03%	462	3715
Eastern	10/1/2020	295	58.31%	172	5989
Western	10/1/2020	269	72.86%	196	5248

COVID-19 Regional Updates

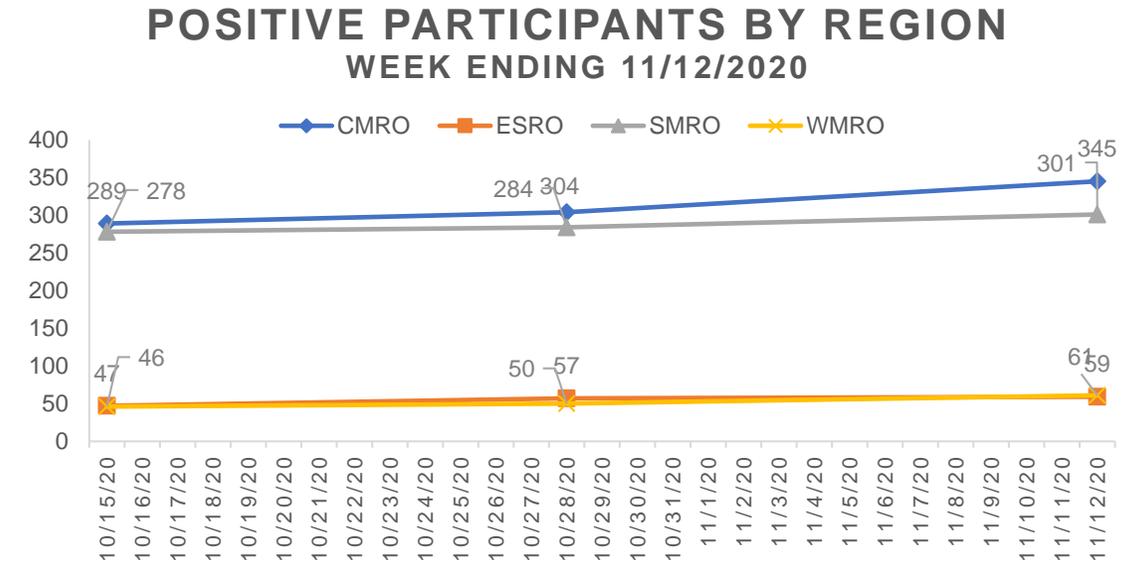
- **SMRO**- Onesta Duke
onestaduke@maryland.gov
- **ESRO**- Kim Gscheidle
kimberlygscheidle@maryland.gov
- **CMRO**- Nicholas Burton
nicholasburton@maryland.gov
- **WMRO**- Cathy Marshall
cathymarshall@maryland.gov



DDA Tracking



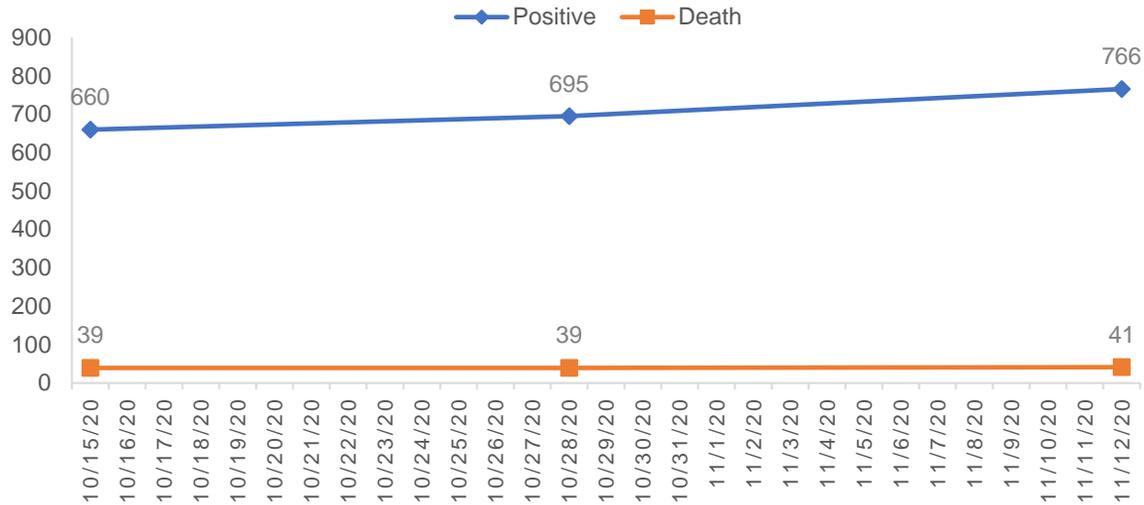
There are 17,764 people supported in services by the DDA of which 4% (807) have tested positive for COVID-19.



CMRO	345	Positive;	Increase of	41
ESRO	59	Positive;	Increase of	2
SMRO	301	Positive;	Increase of	17
WMRO	61	Positive;	Increase of	11

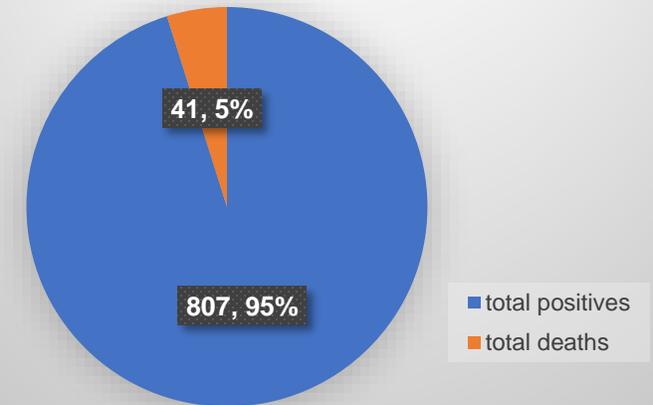
DDA Tracking

POSITIVE PARTICIPANTS STATEWIDE
WEEK ENDING 11/12/2020



There have been 766 participants reported as having tested positive for COVID-19 of which there have been 41 deaths.

DDA COVID-19
Positives and Deaths
Week ending 11/12/2020



The 41 deaths represents approximately 5% of all (807) participants that tested positive.

DDA Website Resources

The screenshot shows the homepage of the Maryland Department of Health's Developmental Disabilities Administration. At the top left is the Maryland logo and the text 'MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH Developmental Disabilities Administration'. A search bar is located at the top right. Below the header is a navigation menu with links for HOME, MDH HOME, INDIVIDUALS, FAMILIES, PROVIDERS, TRANSFORMATION, and LTSSMARYLAND. A secondary menu includes ELECTRONIC VISIT VERIFICATION (EVV), POLICYSTAT, and PERSON-CENTERED PLANNING. The main content area is divided into several sections: 'Quick Links' with links to 'About DDA', 'Recommended Websites', and 'Forms & Policies'; 'Services We Provide' listing various support services; 'Current Initiatives' listing the DDA's Transformation Plan, Medicaid Waiver Programs, Family Supports Waiver, and Community Supports Waiver; 'Latest DDA Updates' featuring a photo of a person in a wheelchair and a list of waiver amendments; and a sidebar with four blue buttons: 'Join our mailing list', 'Report Abuse or Concern', 'What's New at DDA', and 'Training Calendar'. Below these buttons are logos for 'EMPLOYMENT MARYLAND' and 'LIKE US ON facebook'. A red arrow points to the 'What's New at DDA' button.

To support stakeholder's awareness of information that has been shared and posted to the DDA website, we have enhanced our [“What’s New at DDA”](#) dedicated page.

Under the heading of “DDA Monthly Communication Highlights” we will include monthly summaries of communications as a reference for you.

DDA Website Resources



Maryland
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES
ADMINISTRATION

DDA Communication Highlights
October 2020

Letters and Memos

- [Federal CARES Act - New Phase 3 COVID-19 Provider Relief Funding – October 21, 2020](#)
- [Updated Checklist of Recommendations for Providers – October 19, 2020](#)
- [Retainer Days - PCIS2 Error Update Guidance – October 15, 2020](#)
- [Electronic Visit Verification \(EVV\) Memo October 9, 2020](#)
- [Statewide Quality Enhancement Provider Meeting: Data and the Future of Quality Enhancement – October 9, 2020](#)
- [Electronic Visit Verification \(EVV\) Toolkit Update – October 6, 2020](#)
- [Office of Health Care Quality \(OHCQ\) On-site Surveys to Resume – October 5, 2020](#)
- [Service Funding Plans and Modified Service Funding Plan \(MSFP\) Processes and Forms Discontinuation – October 1, 2020](#)

Topic Specific Communication

- [Employment Newsletters – October 2020](#)
- EVV
 - [At-A-Glance: EVV for Participants and Families – October 22, 2020](#)
 - [FAQs: EVV for Families of People Receiving Personal Supports – October 22, 2020](#)
 - [DDA EVV ISAS with OTP \(Video\)](#)
 - [DDA EVV ISAS without OTP \(Video\)](#)
 - [Electronic Visit Verification \(EVV\) Toolkit Update - October 1, 2020](#)
- LTSSMaryland
 - [LTSSMaryland Functionality Updates](#)
 - [LTSSMaryland Functionality Updates- October 2020](#)
 - [Provider LTSSMaryland Go-Live Dates for Supported Living – October 16, 2020](#)
- Person-Centered Planning
 - [Person-Centered Plan Development and Authorization Training Nov 6 – October 26, 2020](#)
 - [Advocacy Specialists At-a-Glance - October 2, 2020](#)
 - [Person-Centered Plan Development and Authorization SOP Final – October 1, 2020](#)
- Policies
 - [Policy on "Use of Dedicated Supports during Meaningful Day Hours"- October 26, 2020](#)
 - [Policy on "Organized Health Care Delivery System" – October 27, 2020](#)
- Other Communications
 - [Retainer Payments Guidance - October 14, 2020](#)

Webinars

- [Webinar with Deputy Secretary Simons - October 30, 2020](#)
 - [Webinar PPT - October 30, 2020](#)
- [Maryland Community of Practice – Electronic Visit Verification October 28, 2020](#)
 - [Electronic Visit Verification Presentation - October 28, 2020](#)

“DDA Monthly Communication Highlights” are organized with direct links to reflect recent:

- Letters and Memos,
- Topic Specific Communications, and
- Webinars

DDA Website Resources



Quick Links

- > [About DDA](#)
- > [Recommended Websites](#)
- > [Forms & Policies](#)

Services We Provide

- > [Behavior Supports](#)
- > [Coordination Of Community Services](#)
- > [Employment](#)
- > [Housing](#)
- > [Low Intensity Supports Services \(LISS\)](#)
- > [Nursing](#)
- > [Self-Directed Services](#)
- > [Training and Webinars](#)
- > [Transitioning Youth](#)

Current Initiatives

- > [DDA's Transformation Plan](#)
- > [DDA Medicaid Waiver Programs](#)
- > [Family Supports Waiver](#)
- > [Community Supports](#)

Person-Centered Planning



Everyone has the right to live, love, work, play, and pursue their aspirations in their community. Since 2015, the Maryland Developmental Disabilities Administration (DDA) has been wholly transforming our programs, policies and funding processes to put people with developmental disabilities at the center of our efforts.

We have been listening to what people with developmental disabilities want their lives to look like, and we have created a flexible, person-centered, family-oriented service delivery system to help them in their journey.

We place people at the center of planning a vision for their personally-defined good life. This is done through Person-Centered Planning. Our guide for Coordinators of Community Services provides more information on how individuals can choose in "My Life, My Plan, My Choice."

- [Person-Centered Plan Development and Authorization Guidance Webinar - November 6, 2020](#)
 - [Person-Centered Plan Development and Authorization Guidance PowerPoint - November 6, 2020](#)
- [Person-Centered Plan Development and Authorization - Revised Nov 6, 2020](#)
- [Guidelines for Service Authorization and Provider Billing Documentation - Revised Nov 6, 2020](#)
- [Cost Detail Tool - Revised Nov 5, 2020](#)
- [Frequently Asked Questions: Person Centered Plans \(PCPs\) - October 26, 2020](#)
- [Advocacy Specialists At-a-Glance - October 2, 2020](#)

To support our Person-Centered Planning efforts, we have also created a quick link on our website banner so that the information can be accessed from any DDA webpage the viewer is on.

This page also includes all the recent and updated PCP, DSAT, and Cost Detail Tool guidance.

*Heather Saunders, MPH, RN, CIC, Nursing Program
Consultant at the Maryland Department of Health*

COVID-19 and the Holiday Season



COVID-19 and the Holiday Season

Maryland Department of Health

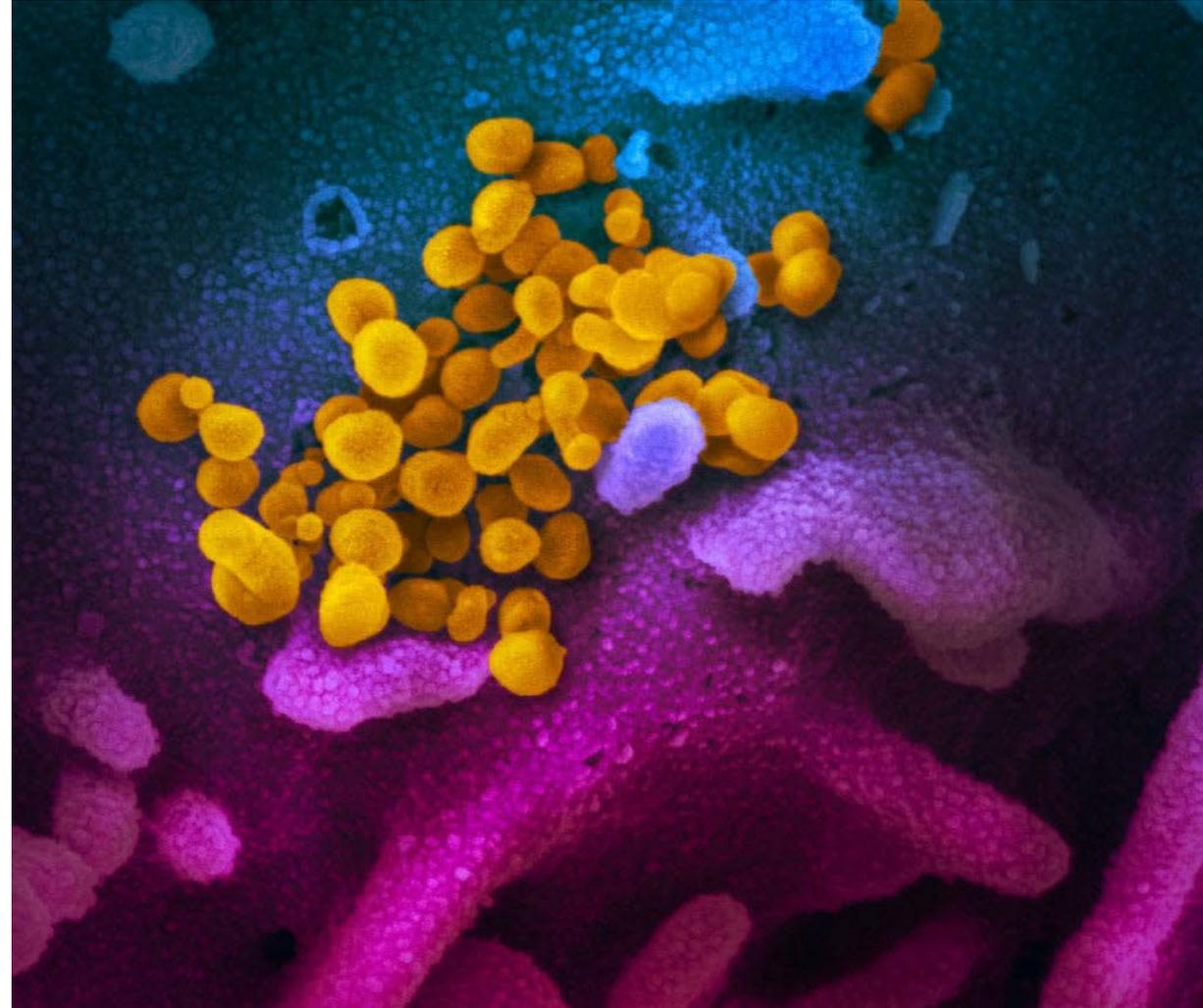
Infectious Disease Epidemiology and Outbreak Response Bureau

November 13, 2020

Objectives

- Review COVID-19 and how to stay safe
- Discuss concerns around the spread of COVID-19 during the holiday season
- Review options for modifying holiday plans
- Q & A

Picture Courtesy of NIAID-RML



COVID-19 and How to Stay Safe

How Does it Spread?

- COVID-19 spreads easily from person to person, mainly by the following routes:
 - Between people who are in close contact with one another (within 6 feet)
 - Through respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs, sneezes, breathes, sings or talks
- People who are infected but do not have symptoms can also spread the virus to others
- Less commonly, the virus spreads through contact with contaminated surfaces and smaller airborne droplets

What Should Everyone Do?

- Wash your hands often
- Avoid close contact
- Wear a mask that covers your nose and mouth
- Cover your cough and sneeze
- Clean and disinfect
- Monitor your health daily

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/prevention.html>

COVID-19 and the Holidays

COVID-19 Current Situation

- The COVID-19 epidemic in the United States and Maryland is worsening
- Small household gatherings are a contributor to the rise in cases
- We can slow the spread of COVID-19 by avoiding or modifying small gatherings



Concerns for Holiday Gatherings

- Most people celebrate the holidays with dinner around a table (i.e. no social distancing and masking)
- To prevent further spread through small gatherings, modifications need to be made to holiday gatherings



Considerations for Holiday Celebrations

- Lowest risk - Celebrating virtually or with members of your own household (who are consistently taking measures to reduce the spread of COVID-19) poses the lowest risk for spread
- Medium risk – Participating in a small, socially distanced gathering with individuals outside of your household. Masks and social distancing is observed. Attendees sit at different tables or avoid a communal meal.
- High risk – A large non-socially distanced gathering without masks (i.e. traditional holiday gathering with traditional holiday dinners)

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/daily-life-coping/holidays.html>

Who should NOT attend a holiday gathering?

- Anyone with signs or symptoms of COVID-19
- Anyone who has been exposed in the last 14 days to an individual with signs or symptoms of COVID-19
- Anyone at increased risk of severe illness from COVID-19
 - “If you are an older adult or person with certain medical conditions who is at [increased risk of severe illness](#) from COVID-19, or live or work with someone at increased risk of severe illness, you should avoid in-person gatherings with people who do not live in your household.”

How can we reduce the risk of holiday gatherings?

- **Celebrate virtually and/or with members of your own household**
- Limit the number of attendees and enforce social distancing/masking.
- Host outdoor gatherings over indoor gatherings
- Avoid pot-luck style dinners
- Eat meals at least 6 feet apart or with members of the same household
- Avoid risky behaviors such as excessive consumption of alcohol

Communicating with Staff, Residents, and Families Regarding the Holidays

- Host a virtual town hall to discuss your concerns and your staffs', families, residents' concerns
- Share/review the CDC information shared on today's call
- Encourage low risk options for celebrating the holidays
- Discourage out of state travel to states >10% positivity and require 14 days of quarantine for any staff who travels outside of the state for the holidays
- Provide opportunities for participation in virtual celebrations with family members
- Require 14 days of quarantine for residents returning from holiday gatherings

Questions

