March 10, 2020

Aloha Resource Caregivers,

As the rapidly changing Coronavirus Disease situation evolves, we want to take the opportunity to provide you with some valuable information to help keep yourselves and the children in your care safe.

Please see the attached communication from the State of Hawaii, Department of Health. As you can see, the situation has already changed since Hawaii’s first reported case of COVID-19 was identified on March 6, 2020. However, the information regarding planning and preparing is still relevant.

Please practice everyday protection and stay updated through the websites provided and media outlets. Please notify the Department immediately if:

1) You notice that a child/ren placed in your home display a fever, cough, or shortness of breath;

2) A child/ren placed in your home is diagnosed with a confirmed case of Coronavirus;

3) Any household members are diagnosed with a confirmed case of Coronavirus.

Please contact your licensing worker if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Kayle M. Perez
Social Services Division Administrator

Attachment
COVID-19 Daily Update

Precautions for seniors
Seniors are at a greater risk for COVID-19, especially those who have underlying health conditions. Older adults and individuals with underlying health issues should avoid non-essential travel, including cruises. Avoid large crowds, wash your hands, and keep medications and groceries on-hand.

Public is advised to call 2-1-1 for information on COVID-19
For more information or questions about COVID-19 call 2-1-1 from any location in the state, or visit health.hawaii.gov/covid19 or coronavirus.gov.

For the latest situation reports from the World Health Organization, visit who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/situation-reports.

Second presumptive positive case on Oahu
Yesterday, DOH tested a second presumptive positive test result for an elderly adult who is hospitalized in serious condition on Oahu. The individual felt ill on March 2 in Washington State and traveled home to Honolulu on March 4. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has been notified and trace back investigations are being conducted. The Oahu hospital has taken protective and preventive measures and is working with healthcare workers to ensure health and safety. Information is still being gathered and as more information becomes available, the public will be advised.

The first presumptive positive case was announced March 6. That individual was a passenger on the Grand Princess cruise in Mexico from Feb. 11-21. After arriving in Mexico, the individual traveled home to Honolulu with no symptoms. While home in Honolulu, the individual became ill on March 1, sought medical care and was
address concerns about workers who have traveled to China, DOH developed a list of frequently asked questions and answers to guide local businesses.

National travel advisories
Before traveling, review Travel Advisories and Alerts for destination(s) at www.travel.state.gov/destination. The State Department and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention provide specific advice to travelers on their websites.

Preventing the spread of misinformation and disease
The Department of Health is committed to sharing information as it becomes available. People are urged not to spread misinformation or inaccurate statements that are not confirmed, and keep updated and informed on the situation. Everyone can help prevent the spread of respiratory illness with these everyday actions.

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Stay home when you are sick.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces using a regular household cleaning spray or wipe.
- CDC does not recommend that people who are well wear a facemask to protect themselves from illnesses, including COVID-19. Keep in mind that supplies are limited and we need to make sure there are enough masks for our front-line health care workers. If you are sick then wear a mask to protect the people around you.
- Prepare for the possibility that people may want to stay home or may be asked to stay home to prevent the spread of illness.
  - If you have daily medication needs, have more than a week’s supply on hand and have as much on hand as your insurance will allow you to have.
  - Not everyone can afford to stock up on supplies or has the space to store them but anything you can arrange in advance means one less inconvenience or one less trip to the store while you are sick.
  - Make family plans for the possibility of school or day care closures. Do some contingency planning in advance at the family level.

Screening of arriving passengers at Daniel K. Inouye International Airport in Honolulu

Foreign nationals who have traveled to mainland China and Iran within the last 14 days are being denied entry into the U.S. This includes not only people with a China or Iran passport, but all foreign nationals per Department of Homeland Security guidance. The exception is U.S. citizens, legal permanent U.S. residents or their immediate family.

Enhanced screening procedures are in place at Daniel K. Inouye International Airport for passengers who have traveled to China and Iran within the last 14 days. Airport passenger screening continues to be conducted by federal authorities from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and Customs and Border Protection (CBP).

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