

COVID-19 Updates

Colorado Department of
Health Care Policy & Financing

June 26, 2020

Overview

COVID-19 Modeling Update

- Rachel Herlihy, Division Director, Disease Control and Environmental Epidemiology Division, CDPHE

Colorado Cross-Disability Coalition (CCDC) Update

- Julie Reiskin, Executive Director

The New Normal Highlights New Guidance Resources

- Bonnie Silva, Office of Community Living Director, HCPF

June 26, 2020

COVID-19 Modeling Update

MODELING DATA INTRO

“The current state of COVID-19 in Colorado and projected course of the epidemic in the coming weeks”

Prepared by the Colorado COVID-19 Modeling Group

Colorado School of Public Health: Andrea Buchwald, Elizabeth Carlton, Debashis Ghosh, Jonathan Samet;
University of Colorado School of Medicine: Kathryn Colborn; University of Colorado-Boulder Department
of Applied Mathematics: David Bortz; University of Colorado-Denver: jimi adams; Colorado State
University: Jude Bayham

THE CONCEPT OF SOCIAL DISTANCING

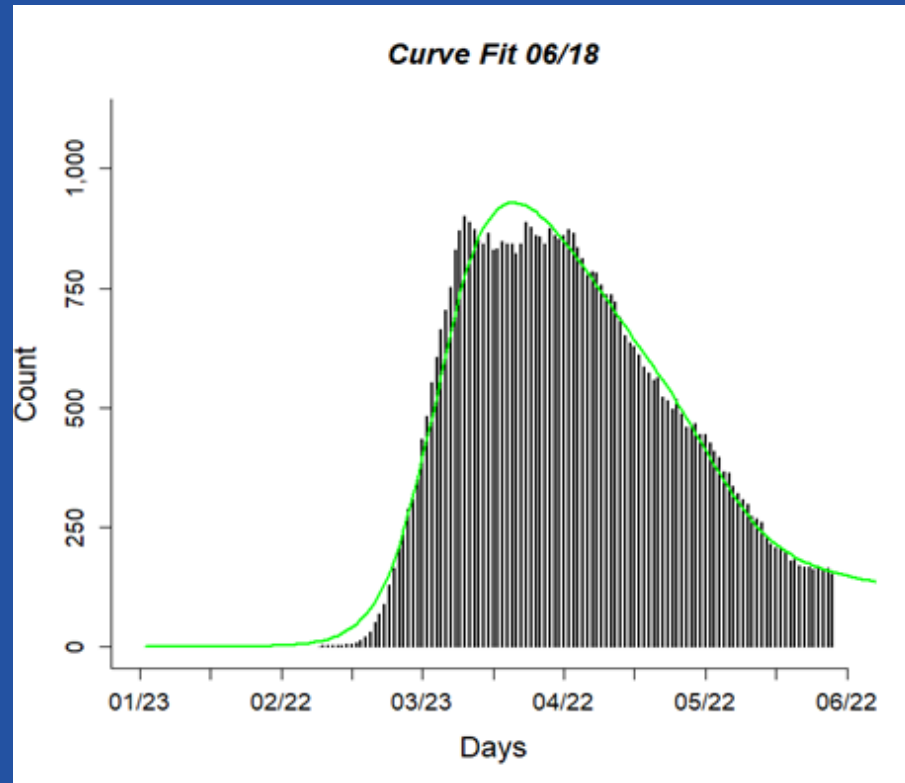
- A measure of the extent to which contacts have been reduced among individuals.
 - Consider a range from freely mixing to complete isolation.
- The model estimates the social distancing parameter, which reflects other changes that influence transmission of infection.
 - Changes in behavior.
 - Changes in hygiene.
- Mobility is one surrogate.

USING MODELS TO LOOK BACKWARDS AND FORWARDS



HOSPITALIZATIONS

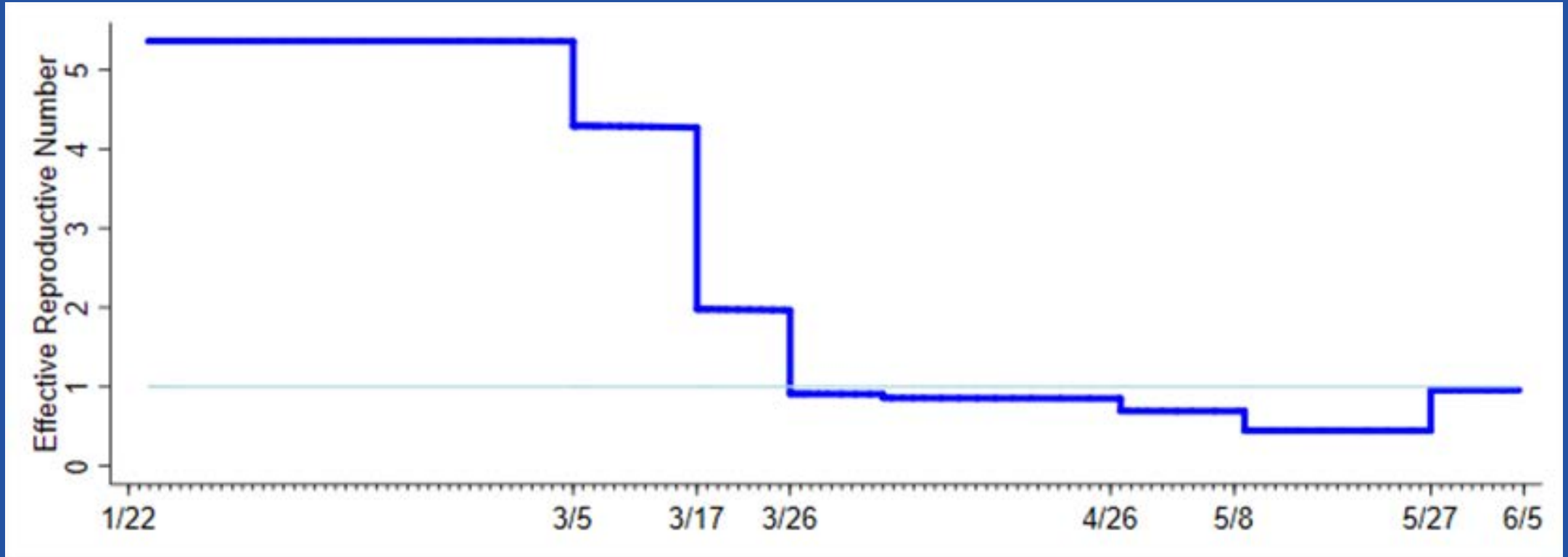
Hospitalizations are declining, but the rate of decline is slowing.



Model fit to EMR hospital census data through June 18th

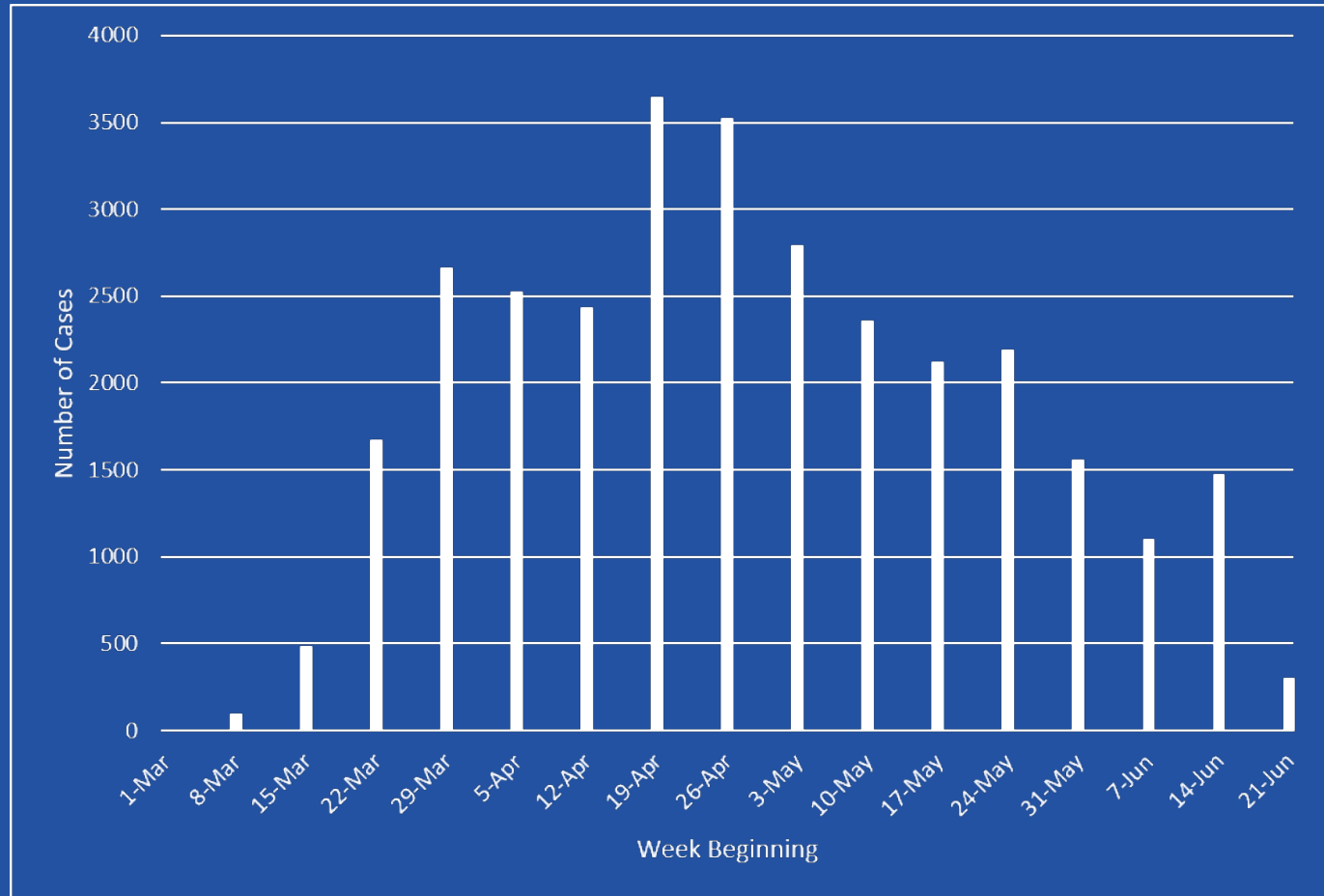
13 days from infection to hospitalization, on average.
Hospitalizations through 6/18 reflect infections through approximately 6/5

THE REPRODUCTIVE NUMBER HAS INCREASED



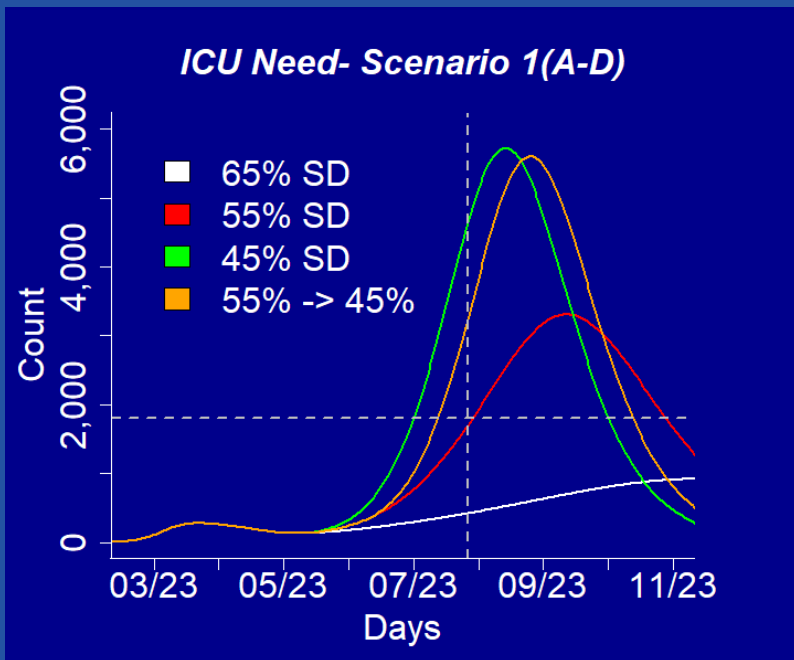
Because of the 13-day lag between infection and hospitalization, on average, we can currently estimate the reproductive number through June 5th.

CURRENT CASE AND DATA

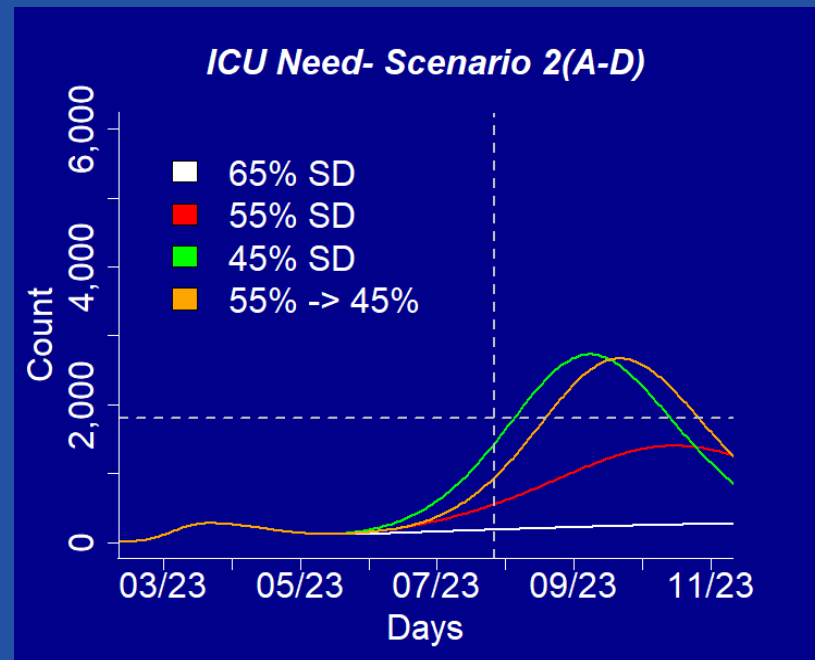


SOCIAL DISTANCING SCENARIOS

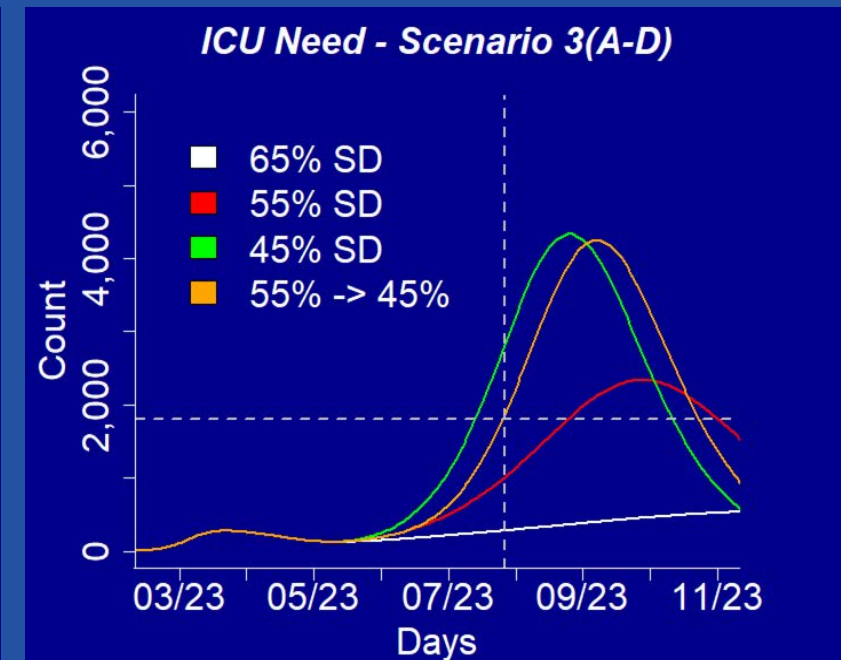
All populations at same level of social distancing



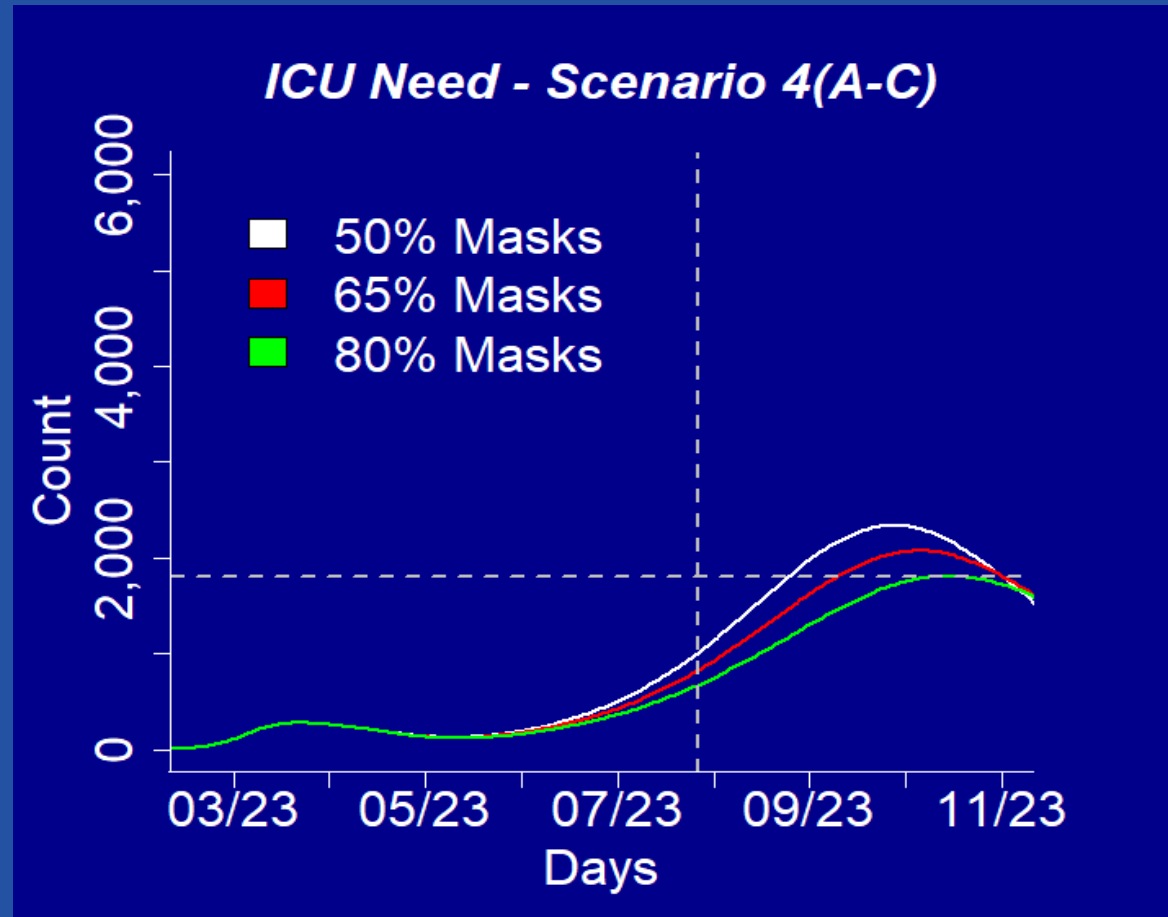
All older populations at high social distancing (80%)



Half of older populations at high social distancing (80%)



PROJECTED BENEFITS OF MASK WEARING



CONCLUSIONS- part 1

- The updated model findings indicate that through June 5th **COVID-19 was continuing to decline in Colorado, but the declines began to slow.**
- **The reproductive number remains just below 1 through June 5th.**
- Modeling projections that extend into the summer and through November 2020 continue **to indicate a need for social distancing of at least 65%** unless most people 65 years and older maintain high levels of social distancing as seen during the Stay at Home period (80%).

CONCLUSIONS- part 2

- Relaxation of social distancing to lower levels (45%) is predicted to lead to a surge in sick people in excess of hospital capacity by mid-summer, even if implemented with mask wearing, increased case detection and isolation, and higher levels of social distancing by all older adults.
- In most scenarios, we predict the next peak to be larger than the April peak.
- Model findings indicate that **increased mask wearing would be beneficial** for controlling the COVID-19 epidemic. We lack needed data on the extent of mask use by Coloradans.

KEY MESSAGES

- We are still at a very uncertain and critical moment, but have done well.
- Social distancing has dropped but R is still just below 1.
- Greater distancing among older people is critical.
- Enhanced mask wearing should be encouraged.

TRANSLATING MODEL RESULT TO ACTION

The modeling work identifies 3 key actions for Coloradans:

1. Get tested
2. Wear a mask or cloth face covering
3. Practice social distancing, especially older adults and other people who are at risk of severe illness due to COVID-19

Continued social distancing at 65%
will prevent our health care
system from being overwhelmed.

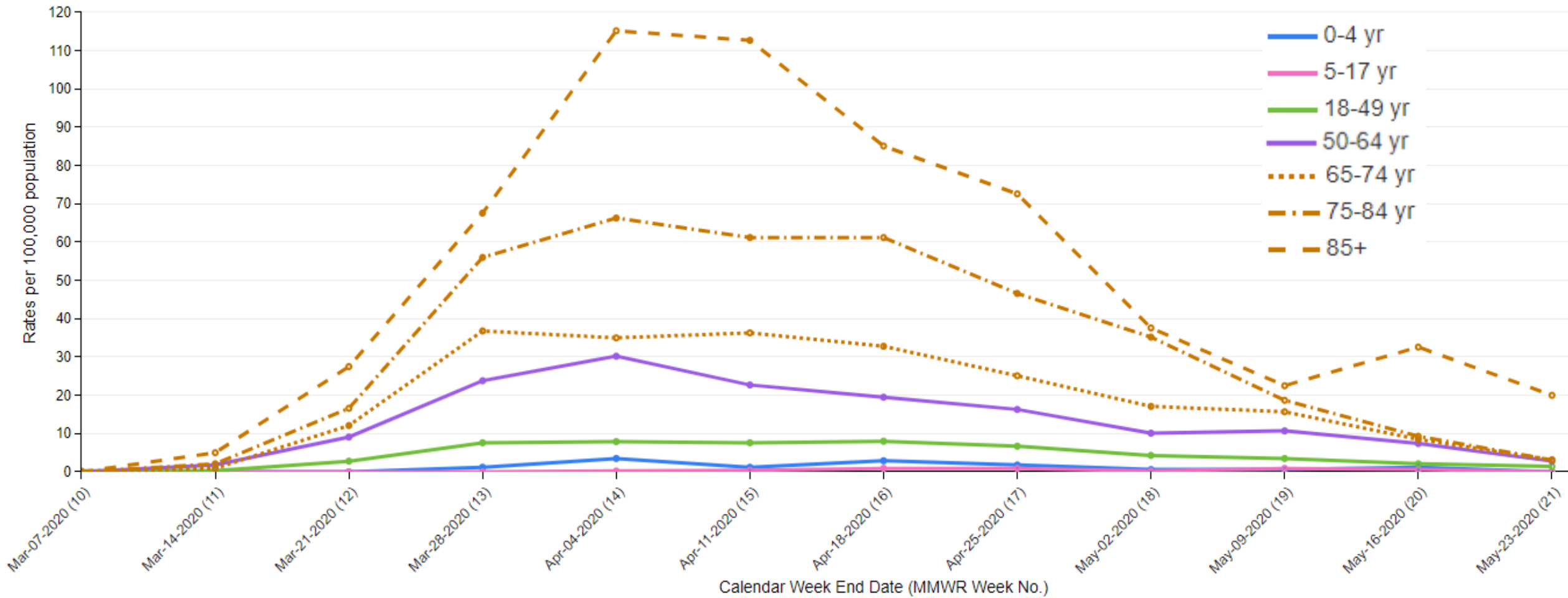
It is especially important for
older adults to practice
social distancing.

Older Coloradans have the highest risk of COVID-19 hospitalization.

Adults age 60+ account for approximately 50% of hospitalizations in Colorado to date, but only 21% of the Colorado population.

Risk is even higher for those age 70+.

COVID-19 HOSPITALIZATION RATES BY AGE GROUP, COLORADO*



*From CDC COVID-NET, 5 County Denver Metro Area

www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/covid-data/covidview/index.html#hospitalizations

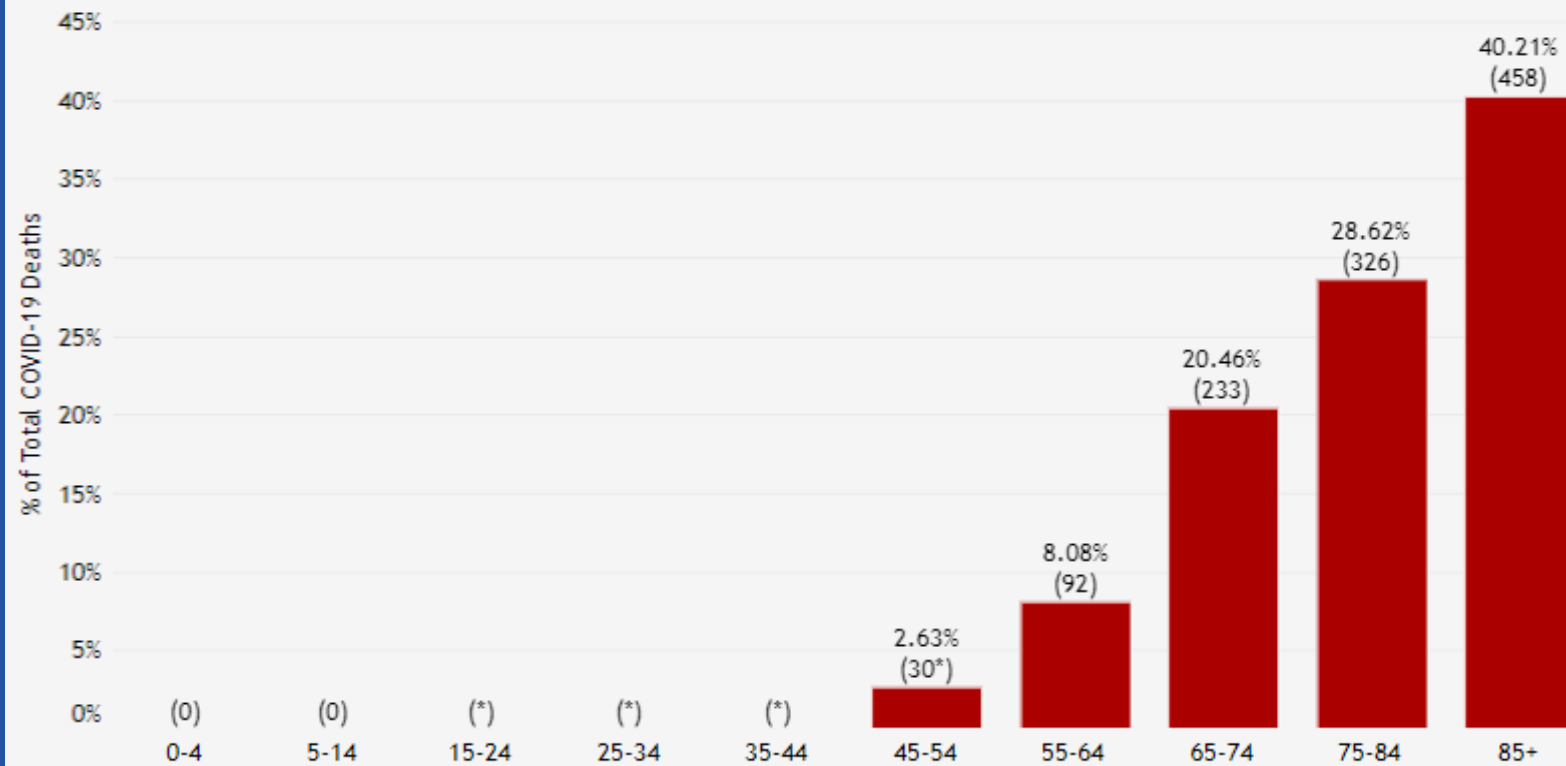
9 out of 10 COVID-19 deaths in Colorado have occurred in adults 60 years old and older.

DEATHS DUE TO COVID-19

Colorado Deaths Due to COVID-19 by Age Group

Data up to Week Ending 5/23/2020, Updated by CDC on 5/28/2020

N = 1,139



* Includes Suppressed Values

SUMMARY

- Substantial uncertainty remains, planning efforts should consider multiple contingencies
- 3 key actions for Coloradans are:
 - Get tested.
 - Wear masks.
 - Practice social distancing.
- While older adults are most at-risk, severe illness is also occurring in younger people.
 - 50% of hospitalizations are among those less than 60
 - New impacts of the virus are being discovered, such as Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome in children (MIS-C).

Facility Reopening Update

- Outdoor visitation guidance released this week
 - [Guidance for residential care facilities outdoor visitation](#)
- Indoor visitation requires a new public health order, so time exists to add/clarify details

Colorado Cross- Disability Coalition

Advocates for social
justice on behalf of
people with all
types of disabilities

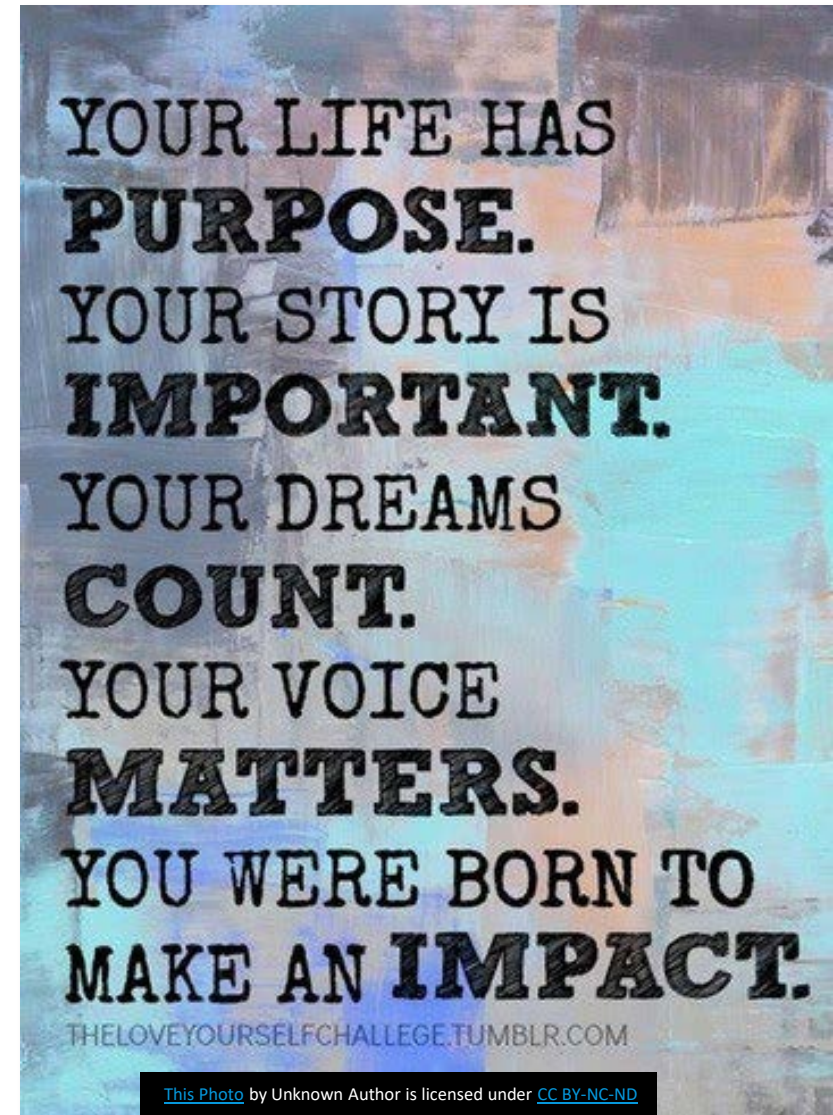
www.ccdconline.org

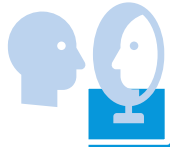
@ccdc501c3
ccdc.co

Nothing about us
without us....EVER

What we all want....

- How do we message this to all participants?
- How do we better include participants with cognitive disabilities in designing programs?
- How do we put an equity lens on our programs?
- Are our services leading to these outcomes?





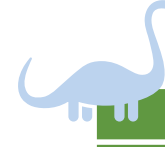
Yesterday

- Why and what
- Purpose of service



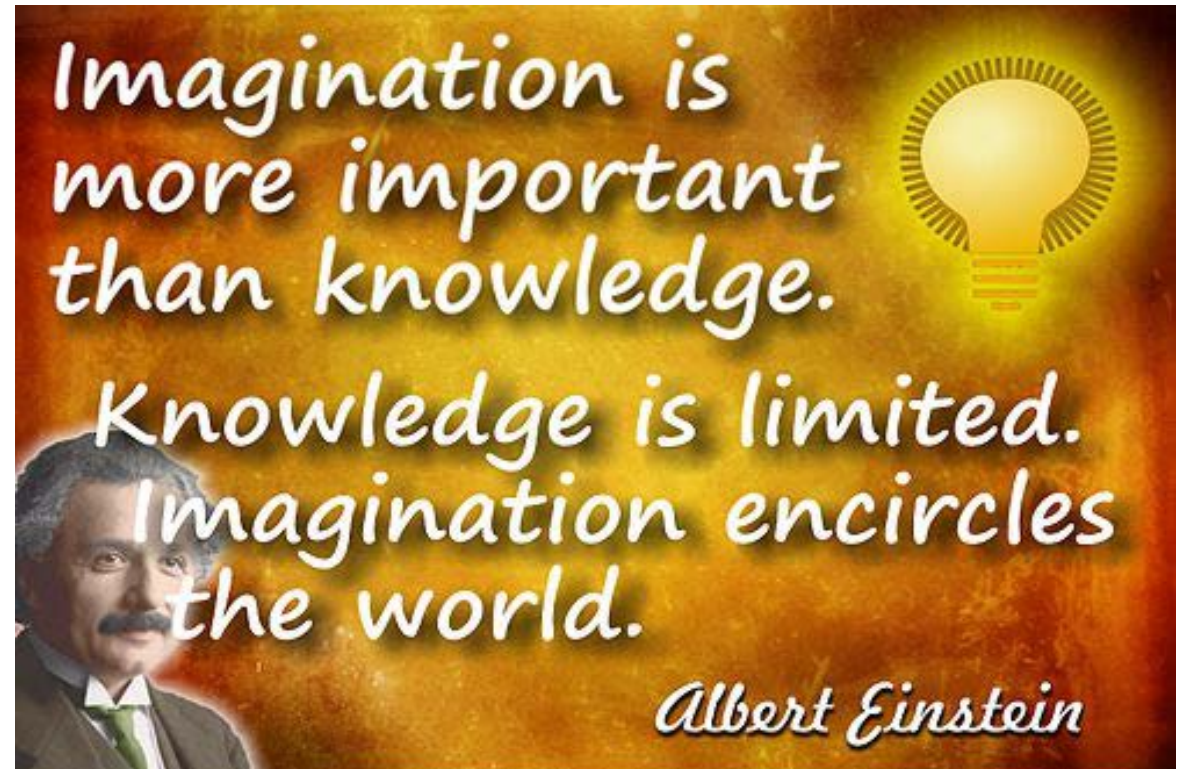
Today

- How can current service be modified for the times and to meet the real need?



Tomorrow

- What may no longer be needed?



Now what?

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New “Normal” Idea Highlights

Case Management

Changes to Keep

- No PMIP
- Online/remote visits
- Not terming people because they can't find providers
- Electronic signatures

Challenging Changes

- Missing true connection through virtual visits
- Not being able to close cases for clients not responding to us or can't find them as it impacts caseload sizes
- Technology challenges for CMs and members
- Longer time to collect signatures makes it difficult to track

New “Normal” Idea Highlights Benefits and Services

Changes to Keep

- Delivery of services via Telehealth Methods
- Alternative settings for Day Programs
- 30-day exemption for PASRR
- 1:1 Day Program

Challenging Changes

- Only being to have one client in a vehicle at a time
- Host Home Providers are struggling with the 24/7 responsibility with minimal Day Program services
- Rates not being able to support 1:1 or smaller group programs

New Guidance Issued



OM 20-063

All COVID-19 related Memos can be found here: www.colorado.gov/hcpf/long-term-services-and-supports-covid-19-response

OM 20-063

TITLE: UPDATED OPERATIONAL CHANGES TO THE HCBS NON-MEDICAL TRANSPORTATION (NMT) BENEFIT FOR COVID-19

NMT rides shall be limited to:

- One member per 5-passenger vehicle
- Two members per 7-passenger vehicle
- Five members per 15-passenger van or bus
- If members reside in the same household, Group Home, or Assisted Living of 20 residents or less, they may ride in the same vehicle to activities or day programs without restriction

Providers shall use disinfectant wipes on areas and objects in the vehicle that may have come into contact by the previous rider prior to any subsequent ride.

- Providers shall follow these basic hygienic steps to mitigate the risk to themselves and members:
 - Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after going to the bathroom; before eating; and after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing.
 - If soap and water are not readily available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60 percent alcohol.
 - Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
 - Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.
 - 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 household cleaning spray or wipe.
 - Disinfect vehicles daily.
 - Have tissues and hand sanitizer available in vehicles for drivers and/or passengers.

[Link: OM 20-063](#)

Previous Guidance

Case Management Agencies

Operational Changes

- [OM 20-049](#)
- [OM 20-027](#)
- [OM 20-034](#)
- [OM 20-037](#)
- [OM 20-045](#)

PASRR Changes

- [OM 20-043](#)

Critical Incident Reporting for COVID-19

- [OM 20-044](#)

Level of Care Changes

- [OM 20-053](#)

Transition Coordination

- [OM 20-056](#)

Facilities and PACE

Infection Control And Prevention of COVID-19 in Nursing Homes (CMS)

- [CMS QSO-20-14-NH](#)

Telemedicine in Nursing Facilities

- [OM 20-032](#)

Training & Certification

- [OM 20-038](#)

Rate Increase

- [OM 20-050](#)

Options Counseling

- [OM 20-054](#)

Stimulus Payments

- [OM 20-059](#)

Civil Money Penalty (CMP)

- [IM 20-021](#)

HCBS Providers

Long-term Care and Congregate Settings

- [OM 20-017](#)

HCBS Therapy Services

- [OM 20-020](#)

Guidance for Class B Providers

- [OM 20-023](#)

Changes to Benefits & Services (Table)

- [OM 20-046](#)

Telemedicine

- [Temporary Policy](#)

Non-medical Transportation

- [OM 20-031](#)

Residential Guidance

- [OM 20-035](#)

Host Home Inspections

- [OM 20-036](#)

Retainer Payments

- [OM 20-039](#)

CDASS Sick Time

- [OM 20-047](#)

Changes to Benefits & Services Rates (Table)

- [OM 20-048](#)

Flexibility in Hiring

- [IM 20-019](#)

Safer at Home for Day Programs

- [OM 20-057](#)

CC & SCC Clarifications

- [OM 20-060](#)

Additional Provider Relief Funds

- [IM 20-024](#)

All COVID-19 and LTSS related memos and FAQs can be found here:
www.colorado.gov/hcpf/long-term-services-and-supports-covid-19-response



New Questions?

Stay Engaged

Memos, Webinar Info, and FAQs - Updated Regularly

www.colorado.gov/hcpf/long-term-services-and-supports-covid-19-response

Email us

HCPF_HCBS_Questions@state.co.us

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Reminder: Personal Protective Equipment

If you or your organization are experiencing a shortage or outage of personal protective equipment (masks, gloves, gowns, etc.) to conduct essential or life saving functions during this crisis, please reach out to your **local emergency manager** or **local public health department**.

[Find Your Local Community Emergency Manager](#)
[Find Your Local Public Health Department](#)

To report issues in
obtaining PPE please
notify:

Sadie Martinez
Access and Functional Needs
Coordinator
Office of Emergency Management
720.610.1691
sadie.martinez@state.co.us

More Information



www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/



www.cms.gov/About-CMS/Agency-Information/Emergency/EPRO/Current-Emergencies/Current-Emergencies-page



covid19.colorado.gov



Local Public Health Agencies

www.colorado.gov/cdphe/find-your-local-public-health-agency



www.colorado.gov/hcpf/COVID



COLORADO

Department of Health Care
Policy & Financing

Resources from Others

- Institute for Community Inclusion (ICI) released a [series of publications](#) on providing day and employment services during the COVID-19 pandemic
- Multicultural Council (MCC) released [COVID-19 Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Resources](#)
- [Video: Supporting Grayson's Family](#), includes key themes that are relevant to home visiting during the COVID-19 pandemic
- [Video: Una visita en el hogar con la familia de Liam \(A Home Visit with Liam's Family\)](#), Ohio occupational therapist Marta Gonzalez delivers an early intervention home visit during the COVID-19 pandemic, illustrating how home visits using video conferencing can continue to support children and their families (in Spanish with English sub-titles)

CDC Guidance for People with IDD

The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) has released COVID-19 guidance, with a primary focus on family members and caregivers who support people with developmental disabilities.

- [Guidance for Direct Service Providers](#)
- [Guidance for Group Homes for Individuals with Disabilities](#)
- [Guidance for Direct Service Providers, Caregivers, Parents, and People with Developmental and Behavioral Disorders](#)
- [People with Developmental and Behavioral Disorders](#)

Here is a link to the CDC website:

www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/developmental-behavioral-disorders.html

Resources from Others

Emergency Response Desktop Suite (ERDS) Tool makes information more accessible and computers easier to use for people with IDD

- Provides accessible information about the coronavirus and how to stay well
- Empowers people with new ways to stay in touch with others
- Encourages people to connect with the community

ERDS offered at no cost to 500 Colorado adults with IDD in certain situations

- Visit www.colemaninstitute.org/covid-19/ and complete the engagement form
- If you have questions please contact Joelle Brouner at joelle.brouner@state.co.us or Shea Tanis at Shea.Tanis@cu.edu

Next Steps



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Policy & Financing

Thank You!