



VDSS Division of Licensing Programs Receives Second Infection Prevention and Control Grant

RICHMOND, VA. (November 1, 2022) - The Virginia Department of Social Services (VDSS) [Division of Licensing Programs](#) (DOLP) was recently awarded \$1.35 million in grant funding by the Virginia Department of Health (VDH) to provide essential infection prevention and control support to licensed adult care facilities. In partnership with Health Quality Innovators (HQI), this funding will provide resources to adult care facilities and their staff to assist in mitigating the spread of COVID-19 and other infectious diseases.

Additional program outcomes of this funding will include:

- Technical assistance for licensed adult care facilities under VDSS to prevent transmission of SARS-CoV-2 and other infectious and communicable diseases and support clinical services during outbreaks;
- Support for assisted living facilities (ALFs) receiving auxiliary grant funding, ALFs providing care to underserved populations, and all adult day care centers (ADCCs);
- Training to licensed adult care facilities on educating family members and caregivers about infection control practices and vaccine safety, including the development of educational material.
- Training to licensing field staff on guiding facilities through a pandemic and infectious disease outbreak.

“Providing education and training pertaining to preventative measures and outbreak response is critical to assist our licensed providers in protecting the health of their staff and the residents they serve,” said VDSS Division of Licensing Programs Director Tara Ragland. “We are committed to assisting our providers in supplying the tools necessary to help ensure the mitigation of infectious and communicable diseases. We are excited to continue our strong partnership with VDH.”

This funding is provided by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s Epidemiology and Laboratory Capacity for Prevention and Control of Emerging Infectious Diseases Cooperative Agreement. For more information, contact IPCTeam@dss.virginia.gov.

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About the Virginia Department of Social Services

The Virginia Department of Social Services (VDSS), one of the Commonwealth’s largest government agencies, is comprised of approximately 2,000 state staff who proudly serve alongside more than 10,000 employees of 120 local departments of social services and community action agencies to deliver critical social services to Virginia’s most vulnerable citizens. VDSS is committed to ensuring Virginians have access to the high-quality human services and resources needed to enhance their individual and collective well-being, and shape strong futures for themselves, their families and communities. The agency provides a wide range of services and resources in the areas of food and

energy assistance, foster care and adoption, child support, and abuse and neglect prevention, among others. For more information, visit dss.virginia.gov.