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Date: Thu, Sep 23, 2021 at 3:50 PM  
Subject: COVID-19 Update  
To: <DSS\_LICENSING@listserv.cov.virginia.gov>

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# COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

## DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

**DATE:** September 23, 2021

**TO:** Adult Day Care Centers  
Children's Residential Facilities

**FROM:** Tara Ragland, Director  
Division of Licensing Programs

**RE:** COVID-19 Update

As we continue to navigate through the COVID-19 pandemic, I want to take a moment to thank you and your staff for your continued care and support to children and adults in the Commonwealth. I had high hopes, as I am sure you did, that we would be beyond these updates at this juncture. Please know that the Virginia Department of Social Services (VDSS) Division of Licensing Programs (DOLP) will continue to support you and your staff throughout this journey.

In a renewed effort to supply our providers with the most updated COVID-19 information, DOLP in the coming weeks will provide COVID-19 updates on various topics and items you should consider having on hand as you prepare for Fall 2021. Checklist items such as preventing the spread of disease, PPE, testing resources, vaccination, and communication plans will be covered in the updates.

Increases in [community transmission](#) and [positivity rate](#) throughout the Commonwealth continue with the Delta variant being the main variant circulating in Virginia. The Delta variant is much more contagious and is believed to spread quicker than the original COVID-19 virus. A [recent health advisory](#) from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), urges increased vaccinations and mask usage. Please continue to encourage any unvaccinated residents, participants, and staff to become fully vaccinated.

The [VDH COVID-19 Outbreak Dashboard](#) was reactivated August 25, 2021. This dashboard includes all outbreaks (confirmed and suspected) reported to VDH since August 1, 2021, and will be updated regularly.

A reminder, all reports of COVID-19 positive cases and deaths for residents and staff should be reported to your licensing representative and local health department.

Again, thank you for your continued partnership in responding to the COVID-19 pandemic. Stay tuned for additional and more specific updates in the coming weeks.