

COVID-19 testing an important adjunct to infection control measures for preventing and controlling outbreaks in congregate residential care facilities. Both the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) and LAC DPH have updated COVID-19 testing recommendations:

- CDSS Updated Guidance On COVID-19 2019 And Statewide Waiver Related To Visitation, PIN 20-38 ASC (10-6-20): www.cdss.ca.gov/Portals/9/CCLD/PINs/2020/ASC/PIN%2020-38-ASC.pdf
- LAC DPH Updated Guidance for Congregate Residential Facilities (10-31-20): publichealth.lacounty.gov/acd/ncorona2019/healthfacilities/ccf/#guidance

LAC DPH is aware that facilities may be facing challenges trying to implement the recommended testing of residents and staff. For this reason, we have created a COVID-19 Testing Support and Capacity Building Program for congregate residential care facilities. We are reaching out to facilities to gauge interest and schedule on-site visits to occur before the end of December 2020.

LAC DPH is offering free on-site COVID-19 testing training and technical assistance including:

- Connection with a commercial lab who will provide COVID-19 testing kits at no cost*
- Training staff to use the testing kits
- Reviewing the process to send completed kits back
- Reviewing how to use the lab web portal and access test results
- What steps to take if results come back positive
- Explaining how to work with the lab for ongoing testing
- Providing support after the training for follow up questions

*Testing kits will be mailed to the facility and mailed back to the lab via UPS for free. The commercial lab will bill insurance for the cost of testing and will bill the HRSA fund for non-insured.

Facilities interested in receiving technical assistance and training, please contact:

Dr. Chandana Das: cdas@ph.lacounty.gov

Dr. Shobita Rajagopalan: srajagopalan@ph.lacounty.gov

Resources:

| Website | Weblink |
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| LAC DPH COVID-19 Provider Hub | publichealth.lacounty.gov/acd/nCorona2019 |
| LAC DPH COVID-19 Community Care Facilities (CCF) page | publichealth.lacounty.gov/acd/nCorona2019/healthfacilities/ccf |
| California Department of Social Services-COVID-19 Information and Resources | www.cdss.ca.gov/inforesources/cdss-programs/community-care-licensing/covid-19-information-and-resources |