

Steps for Residential Providers to Respond to Confirmed or Suspected COVID-19 Cases

What should we do for residents with confirmed or suspected COVID-19?

Notify the resident's primary care provider for guidance and to inquire about getting a COVID-19 test for the resident.

Isolate the resident in a room separated from others, preferably with bathroom, for 14 days.

Provide a face mask to the resident exhibiting symptoms

Monitor the resident's symptoms (fever, cough and/or difficulty breathing) and take the resident's temperature three times a day to check for a fever (100.3)

Prioritize medication adherence. Do an assessment of the resident's medication to ensure they have two weeks of medication. Order refills, if necessary. Ensure that medications are stored and dispensing is monitored.

Have resident clean their room with an EPA-registered disinfectant, if possible.

Launder the resident's belongings (clothes, sheets, etc.) frequently and separate from others.

If there is a rapid change in the resident's health status, call their primary care provider.

How can we protect our staff and other residents?

Over wash your hands! The act of washing hands is one of the best ways to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

<u>Clean and disinfect</u> high-touch surfaces multiple times a day. This includes tables, doorknobs, light switches, countertops, handles, desks, phones, keyboards, toilets, faucets, and sinks.

Wear Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and remain at least 6 feet away from the resident

- Staff should wear masks and gloves around the resident when dispensing medication, taking temperature, providing meals, cleaning, etc.
- Conserve PPE. See BHSB's <u>Suggestions for PPE</u> <u>Alternatives</u> for strategies to conserve.

Secure cleaning supplies in a safe place to prevent harm from accidental misuse or ingesting.

Conduct daily temperature checks of staff and ask about symptoms when they report for work.

Notify BHSB if you have a confirmed COVID-19 case at our **provider-relations@bhsbaltimore.org** and share your plan for containing the outbreak in your facility. For questions or additional support, contact BHSB at our Provider Relations email.