## INLAND REGIONAL CENTER

## ...valuing independence, inclusion and empowerment

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December 15, 2020

Dear Inland Regional Center Vendor Community:

Inland Regional Center (IRC) wants to thank the vendor community for their continued service provision and attention to our mutual client, during these difficult and trying times. We ask that you continue to work with our clients in the safest manner possible, as our numbers of Covid-19 positive cases have increase dramatically since the Thanksgiving holiday. We are currently experiencing a large surge in positive cases for clients and vendor staff. Resources are stretched thin and we need your assistance. We ask that you follow the procedures below to help us all mitigate the surge:

- 1. Follow the Center for Disease Control (CDC) and Local Department of Public Health (DPH) guidelines.
- 2. All client care and contact must be done with the vendor's staff wearing personal protective equipment (PPE). PPE includes, but is not limited to facial masks worn appropriately (nose and mouth constantly covered) face shields, gloves and gowns. If you have a need for additional PPE, please contact your Quality Assurance Liaison.
- 3. Facilities should have protocols in place for proper and timely disinfecting to include hand washing, sanitizing and sterilization of all areas, specifically common areas.
- 4. Client care and supervision must be done with proper social distancing, at all times, and as coordinated as possible.
- 5. Staff should only be scheduled to work in one facility and not float within an organization.
- 6. Staff should be encouraged to follow CDC and local DPH guidelines, not only while working in the facility, but also during scheduled time off. A consistent training regimen may be required.
- 7. Family visitation inside a facility must not occur. Families may visit within the CDC and local DPH guidelines, outside of a facility only (patio, front yard, etc.). Proper use of PPE and distancing is still required and within time limitations as directed by CDC guidelines (15 minutes max, currently). Drive by visitation is strongly recommended.
- 8. Due to the Stay-at-Home Order, IRC strongly discourages extended client visitation outside the facility until further notice (home visits). If an issue surrounding this topic should arise an Inter-disciplinary Team meeting should be held prior to the visit.

Respectfully,

Vince Toms

**Community Service Director**