

Toolkit on State Actions to Mitigate COVID-19 Prevalence in Nursing Homes

June 2020 Version 4



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DISCLAIMER

This document is a compilation of actions employed by organizations, including state governments, in the United States and outlying territories to assist nursing homes in meeting the needs of nursing home residents since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic recognized in early 2020.

The actions were collected by the contractors of the QIO Program, a statutorily mandated program of quality improvement contractors who work for the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) to improve the care of Medicare beneficiaries, including beneficiaries who reside in nursing homes. By law, a QIO works in every state and territory.

This information was collected by the QIOs in late April 2020, and compiled by CMS and its contractors to provide a rapid-access compendium for providers and administrators of nursing homes in the United States to learn from the many creative plans that state governments and other entities have put into operation in a short period of time.

This compendium is not intended as guidance from CMS. It does not replace or serve as a substitute for CMS requirements and policy. The actions outlined in this document have not been evaluated for effectiveness by CMS or any government agency. **This compendium is solely an informational product offered by CMS to nursing homes as well as state and local officials during the National Public Health Emergency.**

OBJECTIVE:

This toolkit catalogs the many innovative solutions designed at the state level to protect our nation's vulnerable nursing home residents during the Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

CMS wishes to thank the many health care providers, state government employees and organizations that generously contributed materials developed in the first and second quarters of 2020 to this toolkit. CMS also extends its sincere appreciation to the management, health care providers and staff members of the nursing homes who work tirelessly to provide the best care for this vulnerable population while acting to stop further transmission of the virus.

STAKEHOLDERS WHO PROVIDED INPUT INCLUDE GOVERNORS' OFFICES AND GOVERNORS' COVID-19 TASK FORCES

- State affiliates of the American Health Care Association (AHCA)
- State affiliates of the American Hospital Association (AHA)
- LeadingAge state chapters
- State Bureaus of Health Provider Standards
- State and county Departments of Public Health
- State chapters of the Society for Post-Acute and Long-term Care Medicine (formerly AMDA)
- State and private universities
- Health facilities licensing and certification agencies
- State Departments of Epidemiology
- State long-term care Ombudsman offices
- State health care-acquired infection programs
- Association for Professionals in Infection Control and Epidemiology (APIC) state chapters
- Nursing home corporations
- State accountable care organizations
- State telemedicine programs
- Area Agencies on Aging (AAA)
- The Veterans Health Administration
- U.S. corporations
- State Departments of Emergency Management
- State Infectious Diseases Associations
- State Departments of Aging
- State Medicaid programs
- CMS regional offices
- End-stage renal disease (ESRD) networks
- Governors' reopening task forces
- State health care coalitions for disaster response
- State Project ECHO programs
- State rural health associations
- American Medical Association (AMA) state chapters
- State primary care associations

ORGANIZATION OF THE DOCUMENT:

- This document has been optimized to help you find information quickly and easily. While the content is organized into sections, you may also rely on key word searches and the index to help you locate the information you need.
- Major categories include:
 - State actions for COVID Management and Response
 - Telehealth
 - Organizations That are Available to Assist Nursing Homes
- State-specific information is included when available.
- When possible, references are given for the innovations, including links to contacts and resources for more information.

I. STATE ACTIONS FOR COVID-19 MANAGEMENT AND RESPONSE

1. CLEANING/DISINFECTION

Alabama (AL)

Alabama Hospital Association, Alabama Department of Public Health

- Alabama has access to a Battelle Critical Care Decontamination Systems (CCDS)[™] located in Birmingham. Hospitals, nursing homes, and other health care providers have been encouraged to send their N95 masks for decontamination, free of charge, including shipping. The unit can decontaminate 80,000 masks per day

<https://www.alaha.org/initiating-battelle-n95-decontamination>

Office of the Governor Kay Ivey

- Specially trained and equipped National Guard teams disinfect nursing homes that have COVID-19-positive residents. These teams will train staff on the techniques of donning and doffing personal protective equipment as well as sanitize and disinfect nursing homes that have COVID-19-positive residents and/or employees

Arizona (AZ)

Haven Health Group and Pioneer Health Group

- Uses a UV machine to disinfect face shields, N95 masks, iPads, nurse cart keys, and any other needed items
- Staff shower and change at the end of shifts in designated areas at the facility before leaving unit to reduce spread of COVID-19 in the community or at homes
- Use baby-nursery cameras in COVID-19-positive rooms to remotely monitor patients

Connecticut (CT)

Battelle CCDS Critical Care Decontamination System[™]

- Performs decontamination of the novel coronavirus (SARS-CoV-2) to address personal protective equipment (PPE) shortage (cleans up to 80,000 units/day)
- Offered free to health care personnel
- Provided in eight locations

<https://www.battelle.org/inb/battelle-ccds-for-covid19-satellite-locations>

Georgia (GA)

Georgia Department of Public Health

- During a recent Georgia Department of Public Health COVID-19 update call, the director of nursing for a nursing home located in southeast Georgia shared its COVID-19 containment strategies. The facility has had no COVID-19 cases since March 2020:
 - Infection control practices started early to include temperatures of staff and residents
 - Isolation plans were implemented for residents coming from the hospital, dialysis, or

State Actions for COVID-19 Management and Response

1. Cleaning/Disinfection Continued

- other external sources
- The facility conducted frequent staff education and requested that staff only work in its facility and not others
- Open windows allow fresh air in the building and residents have outdoor time with social distancing
- The National Guard has assisted with cleaning
- The facility continually communicates with families on pandemic activities, including testing as required by the State of Georgia
- Leadership is committed to keeping all lines of communication open with staff, residents, and families to contain travel and reduce public exposure for the protection of the residents and staff

Illinois (IL)

Health Care Council of Illinois (HCCI)

- Developed COVID-19 Resource page, updated daily with information regarding state and federal regulations, infection control, personal protective equipment (PPE), and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) information
- Prepares weekly member newsletters and email blasts on COVID-19 related resources and events throughout the state
<http://www.hccil.org/covid-19>

Indiana (IN)

Indiana State Department of Health

- The Department is using a Battelle *Critical Care Decontamination System (CCDS)*[™], which can disinfect up to 80,000 N95 masks. Along with hospitals, use of this system is extended to long term care facilities
<https://www.battelle.org/inb/battelle-critical-care-decontamination-system-for-covid19>
- Indiana has distributed alcohol hand rub and five-gallon containers of COVID-19 cleaning solution to long term care facilities that have requested it

Iowa (IA)

GRX Holdings, LLC

- GRx Pharmacies have helped a facility proactively set up an isolation unit, providing med cart, treatment cart and are waiting on a board of pharmacy waiver to provide a separate emergency kit for the unit
<https://www.grxholdings.com>

Kansas (KS)

BioKansas: The Bioscience Network in Kansas

- BioKansas website contains a listing of regional companies that are currently taking orders for critical supplies (i.e., testing and personal protective equipment)
<https://www.biokansas.org/page/COVIDSuppliers>

Kansas Department of Health & Environment (KDHE)

- The KDHE Healthcare-Associated Infections & Antimicrobial Resistance Program has created a health care facility cleaning and disinfection guide

State Actions for COVID-19 Management and Response

1. Cleaning/Disinfection Continued

Massachusetts (MA)

Battelle Critical Care Decontamination System (CCDS)™

- Performs decontamination of the novel coronavirus (SARS-CoV-2) to address the personal protective equipment (PPE) shortage (cleans up to 80,000 units/day)
https://www.battelle.org/inb/battelle-ccds-for-covid19-satellite-locations?utm_source=email&utm_medium=respoder&utm_campaign=fy20-covid&utm_content=v1

Department of Public Health and the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency

- Serves as a bridge when an entity has a critically low supply and provide delivery for urgent needs

Mississippi (MS)

Mississippi Emergency Management Agency (MEMA)

- MEMA is providing cleaning services for long term care facilities. A subject-matter expert is also available to perform assessments. Interested facilities are contacting their county emergency management agency
<https://www.msema.org/county-ema>
- Battelle Critical Care Decontamination System (CCDS)™ provides access to free N95 sterilization for health care facilities
<https://www.msema.org/covid-19-reimbursement-information/covid-19-helpful-resources>

Montana (MT)

The State of Montana

- Montana is using the Battelle Critical Care Decontamination System (CCDS)™ to perform decontamination of the novel coronavirus (SARS-CoV-2) to address the personal protective equipment (PPE) shortage (cleans up to 80,000 units/day)
https://www.battelle.org/inb/battelle-ccds-for-covid19-satellite-locations?utm_source=email&utm_medium=respoder&utm_campaign=fy20-covid&utm_content=v1

New Mexico (NM)

New Mexico Department of Health

- The Department of Health Improvement (DHI) is conducting virtual audits using video to verify the cleaning protocols and use of personal protective equipment (PPE) in nursing homes, assisted living facilities, and immediate care facilities
- A review of all infection control procedures in all nursing facilities, assisted living facilities, skilled nursing facilities, and immediate care facilities was ordered
- New Mexico has contracted with cleaning company to clean all nursing homes in the state
- Specially trained and equipped National Guard teams disinfect nursing homes that have COVID-19-positive residents. These teams will train staff on the techniques of donning and doffing PPE as well as sanitize and disinfect nursing homes that have COVID-19-positive residents and/or employees
- The Battelle Critical Care Decontamination System (CCDS)™ is used to perform decontamination of the novel coronavirus (SARS-CoV-2) to address the PPE shortage (cleans up to 80,000 units/day)
https://www.battelle.org/inb/battelle-ccds-for-covid19-satellite-locations?utm_source=email&utm_medium=respoder&utm_campaign=fy20-covid&utm_content=v1

State Actions for COVID-19 Management and Response

1. Cleaning/Disinfection Continued

[locations?utm_source=email&utm_medium=respoder&utm_campaign=fy20-covid&u](#)

- The Department is considering mandating three additional requirements for long term care facilities: deaths reporting in the data collection portal; anti-viral shoe spray for all individuals entering facilities, and mandated clothing changes for all staff upon facility entry and exit <https://cv.nmhealth.org>

North Dakota (ND)

CHI St. Alexius Health - Garrison, ND

- Facility places contact time for cleaning and disinfecting products in large numbers on side of each bottle to keep that time more present in the mind of those using the products

North Dakota Department of Health

- Awarded a Battelle Critical Care Decontamination System™ to help address the current shortage of N95 respirators
<https://www.health.nd.gov/battelle-critical-care-decontamination>

Ohio (OH)

Office of the Governor Mike DeWine

- Instrumental in expediting approval for Battelle Critical Care Decontamination System (CCDS)™
- Performs decontamination of the novel coronavirus (SARS-CoV-2) to address personal protective equipment (PPE) shortage (cleans up to 80,000 units/day)
- Offered free to health care personnel

Ohio Department of Health

- Web page offers suggestions for preventive cleaning against COVID-19 if everyday supplies, such as cleaning wipes or cleaning sprays, run out
<https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/covid-19/checklists/english-checklists/cleaning-disinfecting-alternatives-covid-19-checklist>

Ohio Department of Health, Ohio Department of Medicaid, Ohio Department of Aging, Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services

- Includes practical tips for cleaning and disinfecting within the COVID-19 Long Term Services and Support (LTSS) Pre-Surge Planning Toolkit
<https://medicaid.ohio.gov/COVID/Long-Term-Services-and-Support>

Oklahoma (OK)

Oklahoma Assisted Living Association

- Posts recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to prepare for COVID-19 in long term care facilities and nursing homes
- Provides additional interim guidance for infection prevention and control
- Hosts links to COVID-19 resources, such as a COVID-19 checklist, sample letters to families, volunteers and friends, and CDC and Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services updates
<https://www.okala.org>

Texas (TX)

Office of the Governor Greg Abbott

- On May 5, 2020 at the Governor's direction, the Texas Military Department activated 250 Texas

State Actions for COVID-19 Management and Response

1. Cleaning/Disinfection Continued

National Guard personnel in support of nursing facilities, with additional activations to meet mission demand. These Guardsmen formed teams to disinfect COVID-19 contaminated care facilities. Teams are based across Texas and are serving the eight Emergency Medical Task Force regions

<https://gov.texas.gov/news/post/governor-abbott-expands-business-openings-in-texas-announces-surge-response-teams-to-combat-covid-19>

Virginia (VA)

Laurels of University Park

- Provided all environmental services staff with laminated daily and terminal room cleaning checklists. They can keep them on their carts and use as reference to ensure all cleaning steps were completed. Because they are laminated, they will use dry erase markers and disinfect between rooms

2. REPORTING/GUIDANCE/MANDATED REPORTING

Alaska (AK)

Alaska Department of Health and Human Services

- Receives updates and guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), which is shared through the Alaska Public Health Alert Network (PHAN) to local health officials
<https://covid19.alaska.gov/health-mandates>

Arizona (AZ)

Office of the Governor Doug Ducey

- An Executive Order was issued to strengthen protection in residential and nursing care facilities by mandating reporting of COVID-19 positive cases in nursing homes
<https://azgovernor.gov/governor/news/2020/04/governor-ducey-issues-executive-order-strengthening-protection-residential-and>

Arkansas (AR)

Arkansas Department of Human Services (DHS) Office of Long Term Care (OLTC)

- The state Quality Improvement Organization (QIO) is collaborating with Cecelia Vinson, Director OLTC, on National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN) COVID-19 reporting and enrollment assistance
- Sent the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) enrollment instructions link and the PDF
- OLTC will refer nursing homes to the QIO for any assistance needed
<https://www.cdc.gov/nhsn/ltc/covid19/index.html>

California (CA)

California Department of Public Health (CDPH)

- Provides resources for skilled nursing facilities (SNFs) on preventing, detecting, and preparing for COVID-19 in a toolkit titled “Preparing for COVID-19 in California Skilled Nursing Facilities”
<https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CHCQ/LCP/CDPH%20Document%20Library/AFL-20-25-Attachment-01-SNF-Checklist.pdf>
- CDPH released an All Facilities Letter (AFL 20-43) on May 13, 2020, requiring all skilled nursing facilities (SNFs) to report daily updates regarding current staffing levels, the number of COVID-19 patients, and equipment availability to CDPH via an online survey. This reporting is to ensure that California has the information necessary to respond to the COVID-19 outbreak and to provide resources and support to SNFs. To meet the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) reporting requirements, CDPH modified their daily online survey to include the questions required by CDC via National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN)
<https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CHCQ/LCP/Pages/AFL-20-43.aspx>
- CDPH will report this data to the CDC on behalf of facilities via the online SNF COVID-19 Survey
<https://survey123.arcgis.com/share/f4050e65e5304c7d8b00760e7718fcc4>
- Due to the higher risk of severe illness and death from COVID-19 among nursing home residents, CDPH required all nursing homes to submit a mitigation plan by June 1, 2020 that must include six elements, including: 1) testing and cohorting, 2) infection prevention and control, 3) personal protective equipment (PPE), 4) staffing shortages, 5) designation of space, and 6)

State Actions for COVID-19 Management and Response

2. Reporting/Guidance/Mandated Reporting Continued

communication. To assist nursing homes in developing their plan and expanding their infection control policies, CDPH provided a mitigation plan template and local public health departments provided technical assistance to assist nursing homes in developing their plans

<https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CHCQ/LCP/Pages/AFL-20-52.aspx>

- To ensure California has the information necessary to respond to COVID-19 outbreaks in nursing homes, CDPH requires all nursing homes to report daily updates regarding current staffing levels, the number of COVID-19 patients, and equipment availability via an online survey. Nursing homes are also required to report weekly data to Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services via the National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN), so to reduce reporting burden, CDPH modified their daily online survey to include the questions required by CMS in NHSN. CDPH is now reporting data to CMS via NHSN on behalf of all nursing homes that conferred rights to CDPH

<https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CHCQ/LCP/Pages/AFL-20-43.aspx>

Florida (FL)

Florida Department of Health

- Provides daily data updates for the number of positive cases, tests performed, deaths, number of long term care facilities with positive cases, number of persons under investigation, and other information

<https://floridahealthcovid19.gov>

Georgia (GA)

Georgia Department of Community Health

- The Georgia Department of Community Health has added the number of resident recoveries to its daily Long Term Care COVID-19 Facility Report

<https://dch.georgia.gov/announcement/2020-06-19/long-term-care-facility-covid-19-report>

Georgia Healthcare Facility Regulation Department

- Worked closely with the Georgia Department of Health, Georgia Health Care Association, and the Georgia National Guard to stay abreast of COVID-19 activity and the impact on centers, while remaining vigilant for highest quality of care for the residents in Georgia
- Provides website updates with changes in rules and regulations, contact information, and a nurse aide program temporary waiver for staffing
- Surveyors have been connecting with long term care organizations, collecting information related to COVID-19 and coordinating with the National Guard to develop a system for collection of COVID-19 data
- The data collection platform will update the public daily at 2 PM, replacing a previous report from the Governor's Office

<https://dch.georgia.gov/divisionsoffices/healthcare-facility-regulation>

Illinois (IL)

Health Care Council of Illinois (HCCI)

- Developed COVID-19 Resource page, updated daily with information regarding state and federal regulations, infection control, personal protective equipment (PPE), and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) information
- Prepares weekly member newsletters and email blasts on COVID-19 related resources and events throughout the state

State Actions for COVID-19 Management and Response

2. Reporting/Guidance/Mandated Reporting Continued

<http://www.hccil.org/covid-19>

Illinois Department of Public Health

- Issued COVID-19 safety guidance for nursing home residents and employees (e.g., screening and reporting symptoms), as well as visitation restrictions on March 20, 2020
<http://www.dph.illinois.gov/topics-services/diseases-and-conditions/diseases-a-z-list/coronavirus/long-term-care-guidance>

Indiana (IN)

Indiana State Department of Health

- On April 10, 2020, took early action to require nursing home statewide reporting of all residents and employees in long term care facilities, jails, prisons, and congregate housing with positive COVID-19 results and any COVID-19 deaths within 24 hours
https://www.coronavirus.in.gov/files/IN_COVID-19%20Reporting_Order%204.8.20.pdf
- On May 4, 2020, Indiana required all long term care facilities to provide daily reports to long term care residents and their designated representatives. These reports include the requirement to report new COVID-19 cases in residents and staff and new respiratory symptoms. In addition, long term care facilities must provide total number of cases and total number of deaths in resident and staff if requested by residents or their designated representative
https://www.coronavirus.in.gov/files/IN_COVID-19_comm%20guidelines%205.3.20.pdf

Iowa (IA)

Iowa Department of Inspections and Appeals

- Fields individual nursing home questions specific to survey or regulation, created a website FAQ document for support on common questions, and provides 1135 waiver guidance. During surveys, the Department encourages nursing homes to reach out to the Quality Improvement Organization (QIO) or Iowa Department of Public Health (IDPH) for support
<https://dia.iowa.gov/about/novel-coronavirus-covid-19>

Iowa Department of Public Health

- Website houses multiple resources for COVID-19 guidance and long term care recorded webinars
- Conducts support webinars with ample Q&A time
- Manages hotline and individual nursing home assistance via email
- Provides support through emergency response team available (for example, personal protective equipment [PPE] supply)
- Create guidance documents for state-specific requirements and reporting support
<https://idph.iowa.gov/Emerging-Health-Issues/Novel-Coronavirus/Long-Term-Care>

Iowa Long Term Care Ombudsman

- Provides individual nursing home support for advocacy of needs at resident level
- Supports residents and families with concerns
- Encourages nursing homes to reach out to the Quality Improvement Organization, the Department of Inspections and Appeals (DIA), and the Iowa Department of Public Health (IDPH) for support
- Website houses multiple resources

State Actions for COVID-19 Management and Response

2. Reporting/Guidance/Mandated Reporting Continued

<https://www.iowaaging.gov/educational-resources/covid-19-older-iowans>

LeadingAge of Iowa

- Provides individual technical assistance; a weekly conference call; regular member newsletters; survey and regulatory guidance; and a website housing multiple COVID-19 topics
<https://www.leadingageiowa.org/covid-19>

Kansas (KS)

Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE)

- The Healthcare-Associated Infections & Antimicrobial Resistance Program released the Infection Prevention and Control Preparation Guide for Long-Term Care and Other Residential Facilities in Kansas
<https://www.coronavirus.kdheks.gov/DocumentCenter/View/979/LTCF-COVID-19-Preparedness-PDF---5-14-2020>

Maryland (MD)

Maryland Baptist Aged Home

- The nursing home joined the Maryland Department of Health group in National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN). This means that the daily reporting requirement to Chesapeake Regional Information System for our Patients (CRISP), the Maryland health information exchange (MD HIE), and the weekly reporting to NHSN has been combined, and CRISP is now reporting to NHSN on behalf of the nursing home
<http://marylandbaptistagedhome.org>

Garrett County Subacute Unit

- The daily reporting requirement to Chesapeake Regional Information System for our Patients (CRISP) and the weekly reporting requirement to National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN) have been divided between the Administrator and the infection preventionist staff in the nursing home. This helps make the reporting requirements less burdensome for one person, as well as making sure that a back-up staff member can take over this responsibility in case of a call-out
<https://www.nursinghomes.com/md/oakland/garrett-county-subacute-unit>

Michigan (MI)

Office of the Governor Gretchen Whitmer, University of Michigan

- Governor Gretchen Whitmer's MI Safe Start Plan outlines how we will begin to re-engage while continuing to keep our communities safe. Re-engagement will happen in phases. Businesses that are necessary to protect and sustain life are already open. As we move into lower-risk phases, additional business categories will re-open and the restrictions on public gatherings and social interactions will ease
<https://www.mistartmap.info>

Minnesota (MN)

Minnesota Association for Geriatrics Inspired Clinicians (MAGIC) Clinical Practice Alliance Committee (CPAC)

- Released "Managing COVID-19: A Guide for Skilled Nursing Facilities and Assisted Living Settings"

State Actions for COVID-19 Management and Response

2. Reporting/Guidance/Mandated Reporting Continued

- Conducted a thorough review of publications from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Minnesota Department of Health (MDH), and the Society for Post-Acute and Long Term Care Medicine and developed a comprehensive guide for managing COVID-19 https://www.minnesotageriatrics.org/uploads/1/1/8/4/118442543/magic-cpac_covid-19_manual_4.17.20_pdf.pdf

Minnesota Department of Health (MDH)

- MDH introduced new RedCap survey to share COVID-19 positive test results. Facilities are to use this survey when a positive COVID-19 case is confirmed. Usually the assigned MDH case manager will send the survey link to the facility, but providers are also encouraged to utilize the tool prior to a case manager being assigned <https://redcap-c19.web.health.state.mn.us/redcap/surveys/?s=H8MT9TTNCD>

Mississippi (MS)

Mississippi Division of Medicaid

- Released the Civil Money Penalty (CMP) Reinvestment Application Template: Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Communicative Technology Request https://medicaid.ms.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/COVID-19_Amended-Application-Template_Final_508_20200428.pdf

Mississippi State Department of Health

- Partner with Mississippi State Department of Health (MSDH) Licensure & Certification with frequent contact
- Provide consultation to prevent the spread of COVID-19 in nursing homes
- Assist with personal protective equipment (PPE) attainment
- Nursing homes with COVID-19 cases receive daily follow-up
- Provides a table by county of Mississippi COVID-19 cases in long term care facilities https://msdh.ms.gov/msdhsite/_static/14,0,420.html

Mississippi State Department of Health, Office of Epidemiology

- Long term care facilities are required to report COVID-19 cases to Mississippi State Department of Health. Mississippi State Department of Health collaborates with the facility administrators to ensure that appropriate prevention measures are being taken

Missouri (MO)

The Quality Improvement Program for Missouri (QIPMO)

- QIPMO is a cooperative service between the University of Missouri Sinclair School of Nursing and the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services. It is composed of gerontological nurses who provide education on state actions to improve care delivery and outcomes for nursing home residents

Montana (MT)

Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services

- Receives daily updates and guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), which is shared through the state's Health Alert Network to local health officials <https://dphhs.mt.gov/Portals/85/publichealth/documents/HAN/2020/HANUD2020-17.pdf>
- The Department, in collaboration with the Mountain Pacific Quality Health Organization, is

State Actions for COVID-19 Management and Response

2. Reporting/Guidance/Mandated Reporting Continued

providing technical assistance and support to nursing home facilities regarding reporting to the National Healthcare Surveillance Network (NHSN) system

Nebraska (NE)

Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS)

- Nebraska nursing homes are required to complete a comprehensive COVID-19 response planning tool by June 22, 2020. This tool is to be kept with the facility Emergency Preparedness Plan and is to be available at the request of the local health department or member of the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS)
<http://dhhs.ne.gov/licensure/Documents/LTCC19ResponsePlanningTool.pdf#search=LONG%2DTERM%20CARE%20COVID%2D19%20RESPONSE%20PLANNING%20TOOL>

Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS)

- The Long Term Care (LTC) Phasing Guidance document dated June 15, 2020 is intended to be used by nursing homes and assisted living facilities, in conjunction with the Long Term Care COVID-19 Response Planning Tool, as they plan for gradual return to standard facility practices
<http://dhhs.ne.gov/licensure/Documents/LTCCOVID19PhasingGuidance.pdf>

New Jersey (NJ)

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

- Recommends CDC guidelines for members
- Promotes CDC guidelines to keep COVID-19 from entering facilities and strategies to identify infections early to prevent spread
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/long-term-care.html>
- Shared resource guide with COVID-19 recommendations, including clarification that cloth face coverings are not considered personal protective equipment (PPE) because their capability to protect health care personnel (HCP) is unknown
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/long-term-care.html>

Office of the Governor Phil Murphy

- Issued an Executive Order that directed health care facilities to report daily data concerning their capacity and supplies to the New Jersey Office of Emergency Management (OEM)
<https://www.nj.gov/governor/news/news/562020/20200328d.shtml>
- The health care facilities subject to this requirement include licensed acute care hospitals, long term care facilities, hospital systems, and emergency field treatment medical facilities, with OEM having the ability to make additions or clarifications to this list
<https://nj.gov/infobank/eo/056murphy/pdf/EO-111.pdf>

New Jersey Department of Health

- Long term care facilities in New Jersey are required to report COVID-19 cases to their local health departments
- Local health departments work with the Department of Health and the facility administrators to ensure that appropriate measures are being taken
<https://covid19.nj.gov>

State Actions for COVID-19 Management and Response

2. Reporting/Guidance/Mandated Reporting Continued

New Jersey COVID-19 HUB

- Website provides county-based data dashboard, COVID-19 frequently asked questions, jobs portal, symptom checks, and state-based updates
<https://covid19.nj.gov>

New Mexico (NM)

State of New Mexico

- Issued COVID-19 safety guidance for nursing home residents and employees (e.g., screening and reporting symptoms), as well as visitation restrictions on March 20, 2020
- Issued an Executive Order that directed health care facilities to report daily data concerning their capacity and supplies

New York (NY)

Mount Sinai Icahn School of Medicine

- Using artificial intelligence (AI) with imaging, clinical symptoms, exposure history, and laboratory data, created an algorithm to rapidly diagnose COVID-19 in patients
<https://www.nature.com/articles/s41591-020-0931-3.pdf>

New York State Department of Health, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health

- Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health built an online educational program for contact tracing
<https://www.governor.ny.gov/news/ami%20d-ongoing-covid-19-pandemic-governor-%20cuomo-and-mayor-mike-bloomberg-%20launch-nation-leading>

New York State Department of Health, Office of the Governor Andrew Cuomo

- Issued a guide to re-opening New York
<https://www.governor.ny.gov/sites/governor.ny.gov/files/atoms/files/NYForwardReopeningGuide.pdf>
- The plan re-opens the region in four phases based in two-week time frames, based on the following criteria:
 - Decline in total hospitalizations
 - Decline in deaths
 - New Hospitalizations
 - Hospital Bed Capacity
 - ICU Bed Capacity
 - Diagnostic Testing Capacity
 - Contact Tracing Capacity<https://forward.ny.gov/regional-monitoring-dashboard>

Office of the Governor Andrew Cuomo, Office of the Mayor Bill de Blasio

- Governor Cuomo coordinated COVID-19 quarantine guidance on reopening states early on with Connecticut and New Jersey; also added Pennsylvania, Massachusetts, and Vermont

Ohio (OH)

American Health Care Association (AHCA)

- The Accepting Admissions AHCA Policy provides guidance to skilled nursing facilities (SNFs) to help make decisions about accepting hospital discharges to SNFs

State Actions for COVID-19 Management and Response

2. Reporting/Guidance/Mandated Reporting Continued

https://www.ahcancal.org/facility_operations/disaster_planning/Documents/SNF-Admit-Transfer-COVID19.pdf

Office of the Governor Mike DeWine

- Governor DeWine's web page announces any new changes to public policy as it pertains to COVID-19 and nursing homes. It also directs visitors to Ohio Department of Health's COVID-19 website that provides the latest data on COVID-19. Some of this data does specifically pertain to Ohio's nursing homes
<https://governor.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/governor>

Ohio Department of Aging

- Created the following resources:
 - Caring for Residents with Dementia During the COVID-19 Outbreak: Provides specific guidance on caring of residents with dementia while requiring social distancing
<https://aging.ohio.gov/wps/wcm/connect/gov/41a0bffe-2fbe-4030-83f6-f21056a4d561/covid-caregiver-checklist-2-dementia-care.pdf?MOD=AJPERES&CVID=n4iolj5>
 - COVID-19 Education for Residents and their Families: Simple one-page document explains what residents and families can do for COVID-19
<https://aging.ohio.gov/wps/wcm/connect/gov/edcf1bfa-745d-422f-ad89-f2d179e1fbae/COVID-19-Information-for-ltc-residents.pdf?MOD=AJPERES&CVID=n4ir1IN>

Oregon (OR)

Department of Human Services (DHS), Social Security Administration (SSA)

- In Oregon, there are many players working to support nursing homes and the greater Oregon health care community
- DHS and the SSA have partnered to develop facility assessment requests from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) that are similar to aid in reporting

Pennsylvania (PA)

Pennsylvania Department of Health

- The Department of Health has shared COVID-19 resources
<https://www.health.pa.gov/topics/disease/coronavirus/Pages/Coronavirus.aspx>
- State Registrar Notices include guidance on mandatory electronic reporting to the Bureau of Health Statistics and Registries of deaths caused or suspected to be caused by COVID-19
<https://www.health.pa.gov/topics/Reporting-Registries/Pages/State-Registrar-Notices.aspx>

Tennessee (TN)

The Middle Tennessee Regional Healthcare Quality Improvement Collaborative Communication Coalition

- The Middle Tennessee Regional Healthcare Quality Improvement Collaborative Communication Coalition, a coalition working with Alliant Health Services, formed a task force that meets every other Thursday with representation from multiple counties in the Nashville area. Nursing homes, assisted living centers, the Mayor's office, and the Tennessee Department of Health are represented. They are working together to coordinate Personal Protective Equipment, testing, and National Healthcare Safety Network needs, such as assistance needed for enrollment

State Actions for COVID-19 Management and Response

2. Reporting/Guidance/Mandated Reporting Continued

and/or reporting in the COVID-19 module. Providers in the area network to invite other providers. A Senior Quality Advisor at AHS, Julie Clark, julie.clark@allianthealth.org, is available to assist connection with this coalition

Texas (TX)

Texas Department of Health and Human Services

- Developed a nursing home COVID-19 response plan, which incorporates direction from state and federal agencies into an easy-to-use set of instructions for prevention of COVID-19 and actions to prioritize and initiate when there is a suspected or confirmed COVID-19 case. It includes an easy-to-remember acronym of S.P.I.C.E. (see page 18). This document is updated regularly as guidance changes

<https://hhs.texas.gov/sites/default/files/documents/doing-business-with-hhs/provider-portal/long-term-care/nf/covid-response-nursing-facilities.pdf>

Virginia (VA)

Virginia Hospital and Healthcare Association (VHHA)

- VHHA launched a nursing home dashboard with statistics associated with COVID-19 cases in licensed nursing facilities. The dashboard is updated daily with information nursing facilities voluntarily submit via the Virginia Healthcare Alerting and Status System (VHASS) related to:
 - Confirmed and pending resident COVID-19 cases
 - The number of residents who have recovered from COVID-19
 - Challenges in obtaining specific types of personal protective equipment (PPE)

<https://www.vhha.com/communications/virginia-licensed-nursing-facility-covid-19-dashbaord>

West Virginia (WV)

Stonerise Healthcare Corporation

- This corporation of nursing homes developed its own reporting page related to COVID-19 that listed its nursing homes along with location, current patients, and number of negative and positive COVID-19 patients in each facility. The corporation also schedules tele-visits with residents for family members

<http://www.stonerisehealthcare.com/coronavirus-update>

West Virginia Department of Health and Human Services, West Virginia Health Care Association

- Offers guidelines for COVID-19 outbreaks in long term care facilities through its website, including:
 - Contact precautions
 - Hand hygiene observation tool
 - Long term care facility outbreak resources toolkit
- Outlines provider responsibility for reporting requirements for suspected or confirmed cases
- Provides general information on West Virginia resources, including medical transport guidelines
- Developed guidelines for COVID-19 outbreaks in long term care facilities. Topics include:
 - Outbreak definitions
 - Preventing an outbreak
 - What to do if a case is detected
 - Measures to control the outbreak
 - Lab testing
 - Health care personnel exposure

State Actions for COVID-19 Management and Response

2. Reporting/Guidance/Mandated Reporting Continued

- Management of residents returning from hospitalization or new admissions
- Criteria to remove residents from isolation
<https://dhhr.wv.gov/COVID-19/Pages/default.aspx>

3. TESTING

Alabama (AL)

Office of the Governor Kay Ivey

- An Alabama state-based COVID-19 taskforce is maintaining a website which provides a wide variety of helpful COVID-19 information, including testing sites, news, and resources. The website is intended to also connect businesses, nonprofits, and people that need help with the right program partners and to connect program partners with people and resources to help those most in need
<https://covid19.alabama.gov>

Arizona (AZ)

Arizona Department of Health Services (ADHS), Arizona Health Care Association, SonoraQuest Lab

- Along with local public health departments and providers, launched an initiative to test all residents and staff in Arizona's nursing care institutions over a two-week period (May 15 – May 29, 2020). Facilities were given the option of having a lab come to their location to do the testing or obtain the supplies to do their own on-site testing. Organizations who decided not to participate needed to sign an "opt out" notice and send to ADHS

Arkansas (AR)

Arkansas Health Care Association (AHCA), Arkansas Department of Health (ADH)

- AHCA had the ADH infectious disease physician conduct question-and-answer session with nursing home medical directors, physicians, and mid-level providers to discuss statewide testing that is planning starting June 1, 2020
- Healthcare-associated Infections (HAI) staff are working together to plan statewide testing. AHCA shared plans with the nursing homes via scheduled webinars

California (CA)

California Association of Long Term Care Medicine (CALTCM), Health Services Advisory Group (HSAG)

- Convened a Delphi panel of long term care clinicians that published "Diagnostic Testing for SARS-Coronavirus in the Nursing Facility: Recommendations of a Delphi Panel of Long-Term Care Clinicians" on May 30, 2020 in the *Journal of Nutrition, Health and Aging*. The article supports facility-wide testing of all staff and residents and provides recommendations to nursing homes in hopes of providing value to the long term care industry and to policy makers
<https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s12603-020-1401-9>

Cedar Crest Nursing and Rehabilitation Center

- Cedar Crest Nursing and Rehabilitation Center was declared COVID-19 free on May 13, 2020 after battling the virus for seven weeks, which infected 55 percent (44) of their residents and 13 percent (19) of their staff. One third of their residents that tested positive were asymptomatic, and half of their staff that tested positive were asymptomatic. The solutions to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 included: 1) mass testing and cohorting to determine who is positive in the facility; 2) get permission from local public health department to allow asymptomatic staff to care for COVID-19 positive residents; 3) appoint a dedicated liaison to handle communication

State Actions for COVID-19 Management and Response

3. Testing Continued

with staff and families; 4) establish a tracking system, such as a binder with tabs for every day of the month to file all communication, occurrences and activities

Colorado (CO)

Office of the Governor Jared Polis

- Colorado Governor Jared Polis initiated a COVID-19 Innovation Response Team, taking a multipronged approach that includes increased testing, tailored social-distancing measures, a reinforced health care system, and a bolstering of state epidemiological resources
<https://covid19.colorado.gov/press-release/state-announces-residential-outbreak-task-force>
- The Colorado National Guard was deployed to test residents and staff at three of the state's largest nursing homes, even though outbreaks have not been reported at the facilities
<https://www.nationalguard.mil/News/Article/2167756/colorado-national-guard-testing-residents-for-covid-19>

Florida (FL)

Florida Department of Health

- Provides daily data updates for number of positive cases, tests performed, deaths, number of long term care facilities with positive cases, number of persons of interest, and other information
<https://floridahealthcovid19.gov>

Florida Agency for Health Care Administration

- Implemented emergency rules to require hospitals test all residents before discharge to a nursing home, and to require nursing homes to test all staff when arranged by the Department of Health

Georgia (GA)

Georgia National Guard, Department of Public Health, Department of Community Health

- Developed a testing strategy in response to Governor Brian Kemp's recommendations to support broader testing and to prioritize testing of vulnerable populations and health care professionals
- Ultimately, this strategy will expand to include private or commercial labs. More than 200 nursing homes have invited teams into their centers for cleaning and sanitizing, staff education, and assistance with testing
<https://www.ghca.info/Files/National%20Guard%20Test%20Team%20for%20LTCF%20Process.pdf>

Georgia Department of Public Health (GDPH)

- GDPH is using an online contact tracing program called Healthy Georgia Collaborative. Following a confirmed positive case, the department will contact those who were in contact with the individual two days before illness set in and enroll them in symptom monitoring. Individuals will be asked to monitor and report their symptoms through text messaging or phone calls and are asked to stay home for 14 days
<https://dph.georgia.gov/contact-tracing>
- Provides on-site support and developed a process for video audits, which has been invaluable to those in "hot spots" of COVID-19 activity
- Collected data from health care facilities on the State Electronic Notifiable Disease Surveillance

State Actions for COVID-19 Management and Response

3. Testing Continued

System (SendSS) network

- Supported health care facilities with virtual and on-site visits
- Tested COVID-19 samples at the Georgia Department of Public Health laboratory
<https://dph.georgia.gov>

Guam (GU)

Guam Office of the Governor Ralph DLG. Torres COVID-19 Task Force

- Acquired 60,000 COVID-19 test kits, with priority one being health care facility workers, then patients in long term care facilities with symptoms and patients 65 years and older with symptoms
https://chcc.gov.mp/DocumentFiles/CNMI%20acquires%2060%2C000%20COVID-19%20test%20kits_%20receives%20first%2020%2C000.pdf

Hawaii (HI)

University of Hawaii Department of Geriatrics, Healthcare Association of Hawaii

- The Long term care (LTC) COVID-19 Project Extension for Community Healthcare Outcomes (ECHO) series has included topics such as COVID-19 testing, planning for dementia residents, symptom management, and readiness in care homes and congregate settings
<https://geriatrics.jabsom.hawaii.edu/geriatrics>
<https://geriatrics.jabsom.hawaii.edu/ltss>

Illinois (IL)

Chicago Department of Public Health

- Created a dedicated website with specific long term care guidance to help implement appropriate infection prevention and control, rapidly identify potentially infected staff/visitors, monitor residents for signs and symptoms of infection, access testing for residents and facility staff, investigate clusters of COVID-19, and connect to needed resources, including personal protective equipment (PPE)
<https://www.chicagohan.org/covid-19/LTCF>

Health Care Council of Illinois (HCCI)

- Developed COVID-19 Resource page, updated daily with information regarding state and federal regulations, infection control, personal protective equipment (PPE), and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) information
- Prepares weekly member newsletters and email blasts on COVID-19 related resources and events throughout the state
<http://www.hccil.org/covid-19>

Office of the Governor J.B. Pritzker

- Governor J.B. Pritzker issued a Gubernatorial Disaster Proclamation in response to the ongoing COVID-19 situation to assist Illinois agencies in coordinating state and federal resources, including the Strategic National Stockpile of medicines and protective equipment, to support local governments in preparation for any actions that may be necessary related to the potential impact of COVID-19
<https://www2.illinois.gov/sites/gov/Documents/APPROVED%20-%20Coronavirus%20Disaster%20Proc%20WORD.pdf>
- The Governor provides a COVID-19 update briefing daily

State Actions for COVID-19 Management and Response

3. Testing Continued

- Drive-through testing sites are available throughout the state; all health care workers and residents with symptoms are eligible for testing
<https://www2.illinois.gov/sites/gov/COVID-19/Pages/default.aspx>

Indiana (IN)

Indiana State Department of Health

- Developed a partnership with Eli Lilly to use its research laboratories to analyze samples taken in Indiana health care facilities, including nursing homes
<http://www.wbiw.com/2020/03/19/gov-holcomb-supports-isdh-eli-lilly-covid-19-testing-partnership>
- Released COVID-19 Specimen Collection and Submission Guidelines update on May 18, 2020
https://www.coronavirus.in.gov/files/COVID-19%20specimen%20submission%20and%20collection%20guidelines_5.18.20.pdf
- Partnered with OptumServe to create 50 additional test sites around the state, bringing total testing capacity up to 100,000 tests per month
- The Department of Health released an update to the State Health Commissioner's Order, Requirements for Reporting COVID-19 Information to the State Department of Health, on June 1, 2020
https://www.coronavirus.in.gov/files/Dr.%20Box%20-%20Order%20-%20Requirements%20for%20Reporting%20COVID-19%20Info%20to%20ISDH_June%201%202020.pdf
- COVID-19 Active Infection Survey of Indiana Nursing Facility Staff – Long term care update released in ISDH newsletter dated June 9, 2020
 - Beginning June 15, in partnership with OptumHealth, ISDH will work with skilled nursing facilities to have all staff in those facilities tested for COVID-19
<https://www.in.gov/isdh/files/ltnnews412020.pdf>

Iowa (IA)

Office of the Governor Kim Reynolds COVID-19 Response

- TestIowa.com was launched to help officials target areas of opportunity and to help them make decisions about reopening the state. New testing sites will test an additional 3,000 people a day. First responders and medical personnel are prioritized for testing
<https://www.testiowa.com/en>

Kansas (KS)

Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE)

- To facilitate a rapid increase in statewide testing for COVID-19, KDHE developed a set of priorities and recommendations with a goal to facilitate a rapid increase in statewide testing for COVID-19 utilizing all testing sites and platforms available
<https://www.coronavirus.kdheks.gov/DocumentCenter/View/1294/Kansas-Lab-Testing-Strategy-Priorities---6-10-20>

Kentucky (KY)

Office of the Governor Andy Beshear

- The Governor has asked that all residents and staff at every Kentucky long term care facility be tested for COVID-19. The state is coordinating with Norton Healthcare, a comprehensive health care system operating out of Louisville, to make that possible. The state of Kentucky is paying

State Actions for COVID-19 Management and Response

3. Testing Continued

for the initial facility-wide testing of all long term care facilities, both for staff and residents. Norton Healthcare, in conjunction with the Kentucky Department of Health and local health departments, have initial pre-testing calls with facilities that have been scheduled for testing to determine any barriers, such as personal protective equipment supply, cohorting issues, and staffing, in an effort to create action plans to address needs for improvement. Norton Healthcare is contracted to do onsite testing if needed by the facility. There is an additional call with the facility after testing has occurred that includes all of the above mentioned entities to discuss results and address any issues or needs that arise. Norton Healthcare provides a 24/7 call center for senior congregate care centers to use to ask questions and to conduct follow-up calls with facilities that have had testing to ensure they are still on track

<https://kyepltc.org/2020/05/13/norton-healthcare-post-acute-statewide-help-line-in-collaboration-with-the-ky-department-for-public-health>

State of Kentucky

- The State of Kentucky is maintaining a website which contains information about COVID-19 testing center locations, rates of infection by state and county, a COVID-19 Hotline (800-722-5725), a link to a daily report of COVID-19 epidemiological data, and a link to the most current long term care update by the state

<https://govstatus.egov.com/kycovid19>

Louisiana (LA)

Louisiana Department of Health (LDH)

- Assembled the LDH Nursing Home Facility Toolkit for nursing home support. This toolkit provides state and best practice guidance for personal protective equipment (PPE), information about an option for safely sanitizing N95 masks for re-use, staffing resources, and testing recommendations, along with a variety of pertinent contact numbers

http://ldh.la.gov/assets/medicaid/hss/docs/Coronavirus_2019/LDH_NH_Facility_Toolkit.pdf

- Announced 11 partners to execute a comprehensive testing plan, supported by feedback from the Governor's Health Equity Task Force, featuring a multi-pronged approach to test vulnerable populations, including congregate settings (such as nursing homes and correctional facilities), communities with insufficient access to testing (including African American and rural communities), and populations that require specialized approaches to testing (including populations with special needs) The Louisiana Nursing Home Association is partnering with the LDH Office of Public Health to test residents and staff in nursing facilities. The state's comprehensive plan includes four goals for the months of May and June:

- Increase baseline testing by 100,000 tests by the end of May
- Achieve monthly statewide testing at 4 percent per capita
- Achieve 2 percent per capita tested in all parishes by the end of May

<http://ldh.la.gov/index.cfm/page/3969>

- Achieve positivity of 10 percent or less as a state and regionally

<http://ldh.la.gov/index.cfm/page/3969>

3. Testing Continued

Louisiana Nursing Home Association

- Coordinating with Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center in Shreveport and Office of the Governor John Bel Edwards to test symptomatic nursing homes residents for COVID-19 in the northwest/Shreveport-Bossier area
<https://www.lsuhs.edu/coronavirus/about-covid-19>

Michigan (MI)

Doctors Without Borders, Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS), Superior Health Quality Alliance

- Doctors Without Borders/Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF), an international medical humanitarian organization, is running COVID-19 health education and infection prevention trainings in Michigan nursing homes to help prevent the spread of the virus
- MSF has also begun working in coordination with MDHHS and the Detroit Health Department to quickly identify which nursing home facilities are in need of infection control assistance
- MSF is coordinating with Superior Health Quality Alliance, the Quality Improvement Organization (QIO) for the states of Michigan, Minnesota, and Wisconsin. The team is offering activities to help protect residents and staff, including assessments and general guidance to improve infection prevention and control practices, and mental health workshops to address the high level of stress and grief that the front line staff face every day

State Actions for COVID-19 Management and Response

3. Testing Continued

https://www.michigan.gov/mdhhs/0,5885,7-339-73970_71692_71696-531944--m_2016_7,00.html

Michigan Department of Civil Rights

- Released Michigan COVID-19 Test Sites video in sign language
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=d6J5gL4Y7Lw&feature=youtu.be>

Minnesota (MN)

Minnesota Department of Health (MDH)

- MDH created a health care worker consent form for Point Prevalence Testing
https://www.careproviders.org/members/2020/COVID_TestingStaffConsent.pdf

State of Minnesota

- The state budget agency approved spending \$4,359,230 to purchase up to 1,000,000 swabs. Funding comes from the COVID-19 Minnesota Fund
<https://mn.gov/mmb/budget/covid19-mn-fund>

Mississippi (MS)

Mississippi Department of Health

- Developed two-week strategy to test residents and employees in long term care facilities for COVID-19

Missouri (MO)

Missouri Department of Health & Senior Services (DHSS)

- To assist with testing, testing kits may be ordered through the state public health laboratory
<https://ltc.health.mo.gov>

Montana (MT)

Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services

- Developed and is implementing a testing strategy to support broader testing of vulnerable populations, including nursing home and assisted living residents and workers using the state public health laboratory and reference laboratories

Nebraska (NE)

Test Nebraska

- Test Nebraska is a new partnership with state of Nebraska leaders and private corporations to improve access to testing and reduce the spread of COVID-19
<https://www.testnebraska.com/en>

Nevada (NV)

Nevada Division of Public and Behavioral Health

- Nevada issued technical bulletin expanding testing

New Jersey (NJ)

New Jersey Department of Health (NJDOH)

- NJDOH released a COVID-19 investigation worksheet and supplemental contact-tracing tool
https://www.nj.gov/health/cd/documents/topics/NCOV/COVID-19_Investigation_Worksheet.pdf
- Requires that all facility residents and staff be tested no later than May 26, 2020, with additional

State Actions for COVID-19 Management and Response

3. Testing Continued

follow-up testing required no more than one week later

<https://covid19.nj.gov/NJfaqs?query=screening+nursing+home+visitors&tabOrder=search.html%2CAASfaqs%2CNJfaqs%2Ccoronavirus%2Cresources%2Clocations%2Cstatus&Facets.filterbox.filter0=%5B%5D>

- The Guidance for COVID-19 Diagnosed and/or Exposed Healthcare Providers resource provides guidance for healthcare providers as to if and when they themselves should be tested for COVID-19
https://www.nj.gov/health/cd/documents/topics/NCOV/Guidance_for_COVID19_Diagnosed_andor_Exposed_HCP.pdf
- Pharmacists can administer a COVID-19 test without a physician's order and with no affiliated agreement with a physician, a prior requirement. The pharmacist is responsible for notifying the patient of the test results
<https://www.pharmacist.com/article/nj-authorizes-18000-pharmacists-state-conduct-coronavirus-tests-without-prescriptions>
- Symptom Tracker uses simple questions to guide people through possible COVID-19 exposures and symptoms and suggested next steps, including testing recommendations
<https://covid19.nj.gov/faqs/nj-information/general-public/where-and-how-do-i-get-tested-for-covid-19-in-new-jersey-who-should-get-testing>
- On March 20, 2020, the New Jersey Department of Health posted an update stating "The New Jersey Department of Health recommends against using any antibody testing to attempt to diagnose current or past infection with SARS-CoV-2. A positive result on a SARS-CoV-2 antibody test should not be viewed as evidence of immunity to or past infection with COVID-19."
<https://covid19.nj.gov/faqs/nj-information/testing-information/should-i-get-tested-for-covid-19-antibodies-can-antibody-testing-tell-whether-someone-has-been-exposed-to-the-virus-that-causes-covid-19#:~:text=There%20is%20still%20a%20lot,with%20COVID%2D19>
- Collaborative effort between three agencies provides onsite tests to staff, inmates, and residents at New Jersey Department of Corrections facilities and halfway houses
<https://nj.gov/governor/news/news/562020/approved/20200501a.shtml>

New Mexico (NM)

New Mexico Department of Health

- Developed a testing strategy in response to Governor recommendations to support broader testing and to prioritize testing of vulnerable populations and health care professionals including:
 - Created strike teams to go to nursing homes to conduct testing when potential or positive COVID-19 cases are seen in residents or staff members
 - Weekly surveillance testing for 15 percent of staff and residents where COVID-19 is not present and weekly 100 percent testing for staff and residents where COVID-19 is present
 - New Mexico COVID-19 website provides a list of drive-through testing sites available throughout the state; all health care workers and residents with symptoms are eligible for testing, as well as a list of vendors who will come onsite to perform COVID-19 testing
 - With the support of the New Mexico hospital and health care association, a testing protocol has been developed for patients prior to transfer from hospitals to long term care facilities

3. Testing Continued

New York (NY)

New York State Department of Health

- Issued Health Advisory: Respiratory Illness in Nursing Homes and Adult Care Facilities in Areas of Sustained Community Transmission of COVID-19
 - Any febrile acute respiratory illness or clusters of acute respiratory illness (whether febrile or not) in nursing homes and adult care facilities in New York City, Long Island, Westchester County, or Rockland County should be presumed to be COVID-19 unless diagnostic testing reveals otherwise
 - Testing of residents and health care workers with suspected COVID-19 is no longer necessary and should not delay additional infection control actions
https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/system/files/documents/2020/03/22-doh_covid19_nh_alf_ilitest_032120.pdf
 - Community Organized Relief Effort (CORE), a nonprofit organization dedicated to strengthening communities affected by or vulnerable to crisis, has assisted in establishing COVID-19 testing sites in New York City's vulnerable neighborhoods to increase access to COVID-19 testing for high risk populations
<https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/home>

Office of the Governor Andrew Cuomo

- Pharmacists have been added to the list of providers who can administer a COVID-19 test. New York State Medicaid will pay of the test when administered by a pharmacist. Billing instructions are included in the document
https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/system/files/documents/2020/05/nysmedicaid_ffs_guidanceforpharmacylabtesting_5_22_20.pdf

State of New York

- As New York City prepares for Phase 1 of reopening on June 8, 2020, 10 additional testing sites will be added to hot spot areas in predominantly low-income and minority communities
<https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/home>

North Carolina (NC)

North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (NCDHHS)

- The North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (NCDHHS) has started new initiatives for testing and tracing
- The online resources are Check My Symptoms, Find My Testing Place, and COVID-19 Community Team Outreach Tool (a password protected site that helps people track their own symptoms)
<https://www.ncdhhs.gov/news/press-releases/ncdhhs-launches-testing-and-contact-tracing-resources-help-slow-spread-covid-19>
- The Department is targeting additional testing and tracing resources for the nine counties that have some of the highest COVID-19 cases: Mecklenburg, Wake, Durham, Johnston, Alamance, Guilford, Forsyth, Lee, and Duplin

North Dakota (ND)

North Dakota Department of Health and Human Services (ND DHHS)

- Hiring furloughed health care professionals to assist with the state's COVID-19 response, including contact tracing. In addition, the ND DHHS is enlisting public health graduate students and the National Guard as contact tracers

State Actions for COVID-19 Management and Response

3. Testing Continued

https://bismarcktribune.com/news/local/health/contact-tracing-puts-north-dakota-at-forefront/article_ccd6c42a-80ec-5c14-9feb-562ca9130011.html

<https://www.politico.com/news/2020/04/21/tracking-coronavirus-workforce-does-not-exist-197622>

Ohio (OH)

Office of the Governor Mike DeWine

- Governor DeWine released new guidelines regarding testing prioritized into three categories of symptomology, with priority one including hospitalized individuals and health care workers
https://content.govdelivery.com/attachments/OHOOD/2020/05/04/file_attachments/1442911/testing%20update%205.4.2020.pdf
- On April 25, 2020, Governor DeWine announced new partnerships to secure testing swabs and reagent, thereby substantially increasing access to testing in Ohio
<https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/covid-19/resources/news-releases-news-you-can-use/Reagent-and-Testing-Swabs-Contact-Tracing-Foster-Care>
- Instituted a Post-Acute Regional Rapid Testing program in Central Ohio, which fields calls from nursing facilities and deploys teams to conduct tests of patients
<https://www.cleveland.com/coronavirus/2020/05/ohios-strategy-to-fight-coronavirus-at-nursing-homes-deploying-testing-strike-teams-to-affected-facilities.html>

Ohio Department of Health (ODH)

- Updated COVID-19 testing guidance that applies to all COVID-19 testing in the State of Ohio. Ohio has modified Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidance to meet the specific needs of the state in light of changes in testing availability and evolving knowledge of COVID-19 and its impact on Ohioans
<https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/static/docs/COVID-19-Testing-Guidance.pdf>
- There are five priority groups for testing based on symptoms, vulnerability, status as health care worker, residence, contact history and age
<https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/covid-19/healthcare-providers-and-local-health-districts/for-healthcare-providers/updated-covid-19-testing-guidance>

University Hospital System - Cleveland

- The Manufacturing Advocacy and Growth Network (MAGNET), in collaboration with University Hospitals and The Ohio Manufacturing Alliance to Fight COVID-19, has developed a new protective testing platform for health care workers assessing the spread of COVID-19. Health care experts at University Hospitals and UH Ventures, its innovation and commercialization division, believe these specially designed barriers could decrease the need for valuable personal protective equipment (PPE), speed the testing process, and better protect front line health care workers
<https://news.uhhospitals.org/news-releases/magnet-delivers-improved-covid-19-testing-platform-in-partnership-with-university-hospitals-and-the-ohio-manufacturing-alliance.htm>

South Carolina (SC)

South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC)

- Maintains a web page that provides state and federal resources and updates on changes to infection control policies and guidelines
<https://scdhec.gov/infectious-diseases/viruses/coronavirus-disease-2019-covid-19/nursing->

State Actions for COVID-19 Management and Response

3. Testing Continued

[homes-covid-19](#)

- Coordinated statewide nursing home testing and education
<https://www.scdhec.gov/news-releases/south-carolina-test-all-residents-staff-nursing-homes-covid-19>

Tennessee (TN)

The Middle Tennessee Regional Healthcare Quality Improvement Collaborative Communication Coalition

- The Middle Tennessee Regional Healthcare Quality Improvement Collaborative Communication Coalition, a coalition working with Alliant Health Services (AHS), formed a task force that meets every other Thursday with representation from multiple counties in the Nashville area. Nursing homes, assisted living centers, the Mayor's office, and the Tennessee Department of Health are represented. They are working together to coordinate personal protective equipment, testing, and National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN) needs, such as assistance needed for enrollment and/or reporting in the COVID-19 module. Providers in the area network to invite other providers. A senior quality advisor at AHS, Julie Clark, julie.clark@allianthealth.org, is available to assist connection with this coalition

Utah (UT)

State of Utah

- There are a number of organizations working to support nursing homes to implement and spread COVID-19 state actions
- State actions identified include:
 - Mobile unit outreach testing to all state facilities, with special emphasis on rural long term care facilities
 - Mobile testing providers bring their own personal protective equipment to perform tests, and they also guide the facility in their response to persons under investigation (PUI) cases
- With the support of the hospital and health care associations, a testing protocol has been developed for patients prior to transfer from hospitals to long term care facilities
- This has helped nursing homes ease resistance to accepting new patients in the absence of testing

South Dakota (SD)

Tieszan Memorial Home

State Actions for COVID-19 Management and Response

3. Testing Continued

- Tieszan Memorial Home used its social media page to inform community and resident's families about COVID 19 mass testing. The intent was for families and residents' representatives to have an opportunity to read the information prior to the personal call to obtain consent for the testing. This provided time for representatives to gather any questions they might have, ultimately contributing to a quicker process in obtaining consents

Texas (TX)

Office of the Governor Greg Abbott

- On April 27, 2020, Governor Abbott released the Texans Helping Texans: The Governor's Report to Open Texas. A key component of this plan is preventing the spread of COVID-19 cases in long term care facilities. The Report outlines the expectation that any nursing home with one case of COVID-19 should receive immediate testing for all residents and staff to immediately quantify the extent of infection. On May 11, 2020, the Governor strengthened this effort by directing that Texas state agencies test 100 percent of residents and staff in Texas nursing homes.

Vermont (VT)

Vermont Department of Health

- Universal Testing at Facilities: When a person tests positive, testing is offered to all staff and residents
<https://www.healthvermont.gov/response/coronavirus-covid-19/long-term-care-and-group-living-settings>
- Testing to Guide Isolation and Cohorting: Testing patients and health care personnel with rapid turn-around times can guide isolation or cohorting strategies. Facilities with no new COVID-19 cases suggesting transmission among residents or staff are recommended to test all new resident admissions (and upon implementation, any resident who has been admitted in the last 14 days), at the time of admission and at days 3, 7, 10 and 13. Residents who leave and return to the facility for any reason should follow this testing guidance. Facilities with new COVID-19 cases among residents or staff should conduct testing of all residents and staff in facility (point prevalence survey [PPS]) as soon as a new case is identified (if insufficient testing capacity for entire facility, restrict PPS to involved unit or units)
https://dail.vermont.gov/sites/dail/files/documents/Enhanced_SNF_Interventions_Facilities-2020-05-11.pdf

Wisconsin (WI)

Wisconsin Department of Health Services

- Expanded information for providers on ordering/securing test supplies, process, and procedures
<https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/providers.htm>

4. WORKFORCE AND STAFFING

Alabama (AL)

Office of the Lieutenant Governor Will Ainsworth, Business Council of Alabama, Chamber of Commerce Association of Alabama, AlabamaWorks!, The Chamber of Commerce of West Alabama, Dothan Area Chamber of Commerce, Southeast AlabamaWorks!, West AlabamaWorks!

- Alabama has created an online personal protective equipment (PPE), employment, and material resource guide for health care providers to find available supplies, disinfectants, PPE, employer/employee guidance, and more external pertinent links
<https://tuscaloosachamber.com/business-toolkit>

Arizona (AZ)

Office of the Governor Doug Ducey

- Executive Orders were issued to:
 - Extend certain professional licenses expiring between March 1, 2020 and September 1, 2020 and defer continuing education requirements
<https://azgovernor.gov/governor/news/2020/03/governor-ducey-issues-executive-order-expand-licensing-opportunities>
 - Extend Good Samaritan protections for front line workers responding to the COVID-19 pandemic
<https://azgovernor.gov/governor/news/2020/04/new-order-provides-good-samaritan-protections-frontline-workers-responding>

California (CA)

California Department of Public Health

- Provided resources for skilled nursing facilities (SNFs) on preventing, detecting, and preparing for COVID-19 with a toolkit titled “Preparing for COVID-19 in California Skilled Nursing Facilities”
<https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CHCQ/LCP/CDPH%20Document%20Library/AFL-20-25-Attachment-01-SNF-Checklist.pdf>

County of Santa Clara Emergency Operations Center

- Organized local resources to meet projected needs for skilled nursing facilities (SNFs)
- Distributed a survey for residents to document skills and match them with specific nursing home needs, such as janitorial services and social work
<https://www.sccgov.org/sites/covid19/Pages/i-can-help.aspx>

Los Angeles County Emergency Operations Center

- Developed exemptions for emergency medical technicians (EMTs) to function as nurses’ aides to increase the staffing at the five impacted skilled nursing facilities (SNFs) in the county
- Engaged the National Guard to provide ancillary support in the SNFs with COVID-19
https://content.govdelivery.com/attachments/CALACOUNTY/2020/04/22/file_attachments/1433947/COVID-19%20Update_04.22.20.pdf

Delaware (DE)

Delaware Health Care Facilities Association

- Temporary nursing aide training allows staffing to increase and may be able to recruit later,

State Actions for COVID-19 Management and Response

4. Workforce and Staffing Continued

giving unemployed workers a job

<https://www.dhcfa.org>

Office of the Governor John Carney

- Removed restrictions on out-of-state health care workers to assist in COVID-19 response
- This allowed individuals who previously held a license to practice medicine in any United States jurisdiction to provide health care services on a volunteer basis in Delaware when authorized by the Public Health Authority
- The provider must be appropriately trained, and their license must have been in good standing for a five-year period before it expired or lapsed

<https://news.delaware.gov/2020/04/23/governor-carney-removes-restrictions-on-out-of-state-health-care-workers-to-assist-in-covid-19-response>

District of Columbia (D.C.)

Government of District of Columbia

- Emergency Childcare Initiative: As part of the District of Columbia Government's response, the Office of the State Superintendent of Education is partnering with licensed child care providers to offer emergency care for the children of health care professionals. Health care professionals who currently hold a childcare voucher will continue to have their child care costs covered and will not be charged a copay

https://mcusercontent.com/67e7a773996f97d87b3be7633/files/6c6dd6d1-9680-4a1d-b3af-d2a3304222c2/COVID_Flyer_2020.01.pdf

Florida (FL)

Florida Department of Health

- Extended health care practitioner licensure to avoid lapse and allowed reactivation of licensure for those whose license lapsed in the last two years

Office of the Governor Ron DeSantis

- Approved a temporary personal care attendant (PCA) program requested by the Florida Health Care Association and Florida LeadingAge to allow on-the-job training program for nursing assistants to work in nursing homes. The program provides an eight-hour initial training followed by supervised on-the-job training and allows the PCA to perform additional duties

<http://www.floridahealth.gov/newsroom/2020/04/042020-1845-covid19.pr.html>

Georgia (GA)

Georgia Association of Nurses in Long Term Care

- Continued supportive efforts of the Georgia Health Care Association for updates to nursing staff and encouraged centers to take advantage of applicable waivers to reduce staffing burdens

<https://www.ghca.info/ganltc>

Georgia Healthcare Facility Regulation Department

- Worked closely with the Georgia Department of Public Health, the Georgia Health Care Association (GHCA), and the National Guard to stay abreast of COVID-19 activity and the impact on centers, while remaining vigilant for highest quality of care for the residents in Georgia
- Provided website updates with changes in rules/regulations, contact information and nurse aide program temporary waiver for staffing
- Surveyors have been connecting with long term care organizations collecting information

State Actions for COVID-19 Management and Response

4. Workforce and Staffing Continued

related to COVID-19 and coordinating with the Georgia National Guard to develop a system for collection of COVID-19 data

- The data collection platform will update the public daily at 2 PM, replacing a previous report from the Office of the Governor Brian Kemp

<https://dch.georgia.gov/divisionsoffices/healthcare-facility-regulation>

LeadingAge

- Developed and shared an 1135 Nursing Home Blanket Waiver Chart
https://leadingageil.new-media-release.com/2020/coronavirus/assets/NursingHome_BlankeWaiver_HighLevel_May1_Final.pdf
- Worked to get temporary nursing assistants (TNAs) during emergency to alleviate shortages of certified nursing assistants (CNAs)

Hawaii (HI)

University of Hawaii Department of Geriatrics, Healthcare Association of Hawaii

- Long term care (LTC) COVID-19 Project Extension for Community Healthcare Outcomes (ECHO) series included topics such as COVID-19 testing, planning for dementia residents, symptom management, and readiness in care homes and congregate settings

<https://geriatrics.jabsom.hawaii.edu/geriatrics>

<https://geriatrics.jabsom.hawaii.edu/ltss>

Illinois (IL)

American Medical Association

- Illinois is one of eight states to partner with the American Medical Association (AMA) on volunteer health care professionals
- The AMA Guide includes information for physicians and health care professionals to support communities severely impacted by COVID-19. It tells how and where to volunteer—and things to consider before registering. For state agencies and institutions, the guide includes information on third-party organizations that can identify and match volunteers accordingly, as well as resources for credentialing in an emergency

<https://www.ama-assn.org/delivering-care/public-health/covid-19-volunteer-guide-health-care-professionals>

Indiana (IN)

Indiana State Department of Health

- Indiana Governor Eric Holcomb initiated early actions Executive Orders, including authorization of temporary personal care attendant positions and training for nursing homes
<https://www.coronavirus.in.gov/files/B%20-%20CCF%20PCA%20Order%20Full%20Signed.pdf>
- A waiver issued guidance for creating COVID-19 long term care facilities
- Facility staffing requirements have been relaxed and options expanded
- Reimbursement rates for COVID-19 facilities were enhanced by 50 percent
- Liability protection has been provided
- Data support helps hospitals identify post-acute COVID-19 facilities for transfer
- Infection control teams train facilities on COVID-19 testing
- Provision of all necessary personal protective equipment (PPE) has been offered to priority facilities, similar to hospitals
- An online workforce survey is available with a specific area to declare interest in working in long-

State Actions for COVID-19 Management and Response

4. Workforce and Staffing Continued

term care. This is coupled with an Indiana health care workforce needs request form https://www.coronavirus.in.gov/files/IN_COVID-19%20State%20Requirements%20and%20Guidance%20for%20COVID%20dedicated%20faciliti...pdf

Iowa (IA)

Meyer Pharmacy

- Meyer Pharmacy has a respiratory therapist on staff and is performing mask fit training for local nursing home staff
<https://meyerpharmacy.com/pharmacy/covid-19>

University of Iowa

- The National Nursing Home Social Work Network is a geriatric workforce enhancement program funded by grants from the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) to develop a health care workforce that maximizes patient safety and engagement and to improve health outcomes for older adults. Much of its work is focused on long term care
- The program offers a weekly online support group meeting and multiple online resources for advance care planning, ethical decisions, and how to prepare and support residents, staff, families, and themselves
<https://clas.uiowa.edu/socialwork/nursing-home/national-nursing-home-social-work-network>

Kansas (KS)

Kansas Department for Aging and Disability Services (KDADS)

- Issued a policy allowing hours worked as a certified nursing assistant (CAN) Trainee II to count for the 25 hours of hands-on training needed to complete the CNA training course. This allows facilities to expedite the process for training CNAs and build workforce more quickly
https://www.kdads.ks.gov/docs/default-source/covid-19/hoc/cna-guidance-3-24-2020.pdf?sfvrsn=a17502ee_2
- KDADS announced hiring of COVID-19 long term supports and services (LTSS) liaison - working half-time to assist homes with:
 - LTSS technical assistance for local public health and emergency management, including education on the characteristics and needs of LTSS providers like facility and community-based providers
 - Facilitating cross-agency partnership between state and local organizations, including review and reporting at the state level on best practices
 - Identifying future priority issues and preparedness needs for LTSS consumers and providers
 - Serving as an additional channel of communication between state and local officials and stakeholders
[https://www.kdads.ks.gov/required/AllNewsItems/2020/05/12/kdads-receives-more-than-\\$6.7-million-in-additional-cares-act-funding-to-support-older-americans-act-programs](https://www.kdads.ks.gov/required/AllNewsItems/2020/05/12/kdads-receives-more-than-$6.7-million-in-additional-cares-act-funding-to-support-older-americans-act-programs)

Louisiana (LA)

Louisiana Department of Health (LDH)

- Launched a pilot in response to COVID-19 on April 22, 2020 to help facilities with acute health care staffing shortages fill those vacancies with qualified candidates who are otherwise out of

State Actions for COVID-19 Management and Response

4. Workforce and Staffing Continued

work

- Launched Louisiana Health Work Connect pilot in Baton Rouge with plans for a subsequent statewide rollout. Any qualified nursing home or hospital in the Baton Rouge area can participate in the program. Interested health care workers submit their information and qualifications using a form. Participating health care facilities regularly update the Department on their staffing needs
- The Department provides a list of candidates to facilities tailored to their staffing needs. A participating facility then contacts a health care worker to begin the hiring process
<https://healthworkconnect.la.gov>
- Assembled the LDH Nursing Home Facility Toolkit for nursing home support. This toolkit provides state and best practice guidance for personal protective equipment (PPE), information about an option for safely sanitizing N95 masks for re-use, staffing resources, and testing recommendations, along with a variety of pertinent contact numbers
http://ldh.la.gov/assets/medicaid/hss/docs/Coronavirus_2019/LDH_NH_Facility_Toolkit.pdf
- Rolled out the Louisiana Get Back to Work Safely Tool on June 10, 2020. The survey helps employees identify their risks from COVID-19 and provides recommendations for staying healthy
<https://ldhcovid19.typeform.com/to/YWNtvZ>

Maine (ME)

Maine Department of Health and Human Services

- Maine Department of Health and Human Services enacted the Extraordinary Circumstance Allowance which boosts payments to congregate care facilities in response to COVID-19
- MaineCare will pay extra costs associated with COVID-19, including staffing, supplies, and personal protective equipment with \$10.1 million in state and federal funds to support facilities
<https://www.maine.gov/tools/whatsnew/index.php?topic=DHS+Press+Releases&id=2410756&v=article>

Maryland (MD)

FutureCare Nursing Homes

- Employee support videos by Dr. William Mansbach provide tips on managing stress during the COVID-19 pandemic
<https://futurecare.com/employeesupport>

Health Facilities Association of Maryland

- David Combs, a photographer, composer, and producer of instrumental music, is offering free access to many of his music videos via YouTube. His soothing and relaxing music has proven to play a constructive role in reducing the stress and anxiety in the current stressful environment of isolation in health care facilities
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCrvuWa0VW2Umc5NgQyUQKMg>

Massachusetts (MA)

Mass.gov

- Created a Rapid Response Clinical Team & Staff Resource on April 15, 2020 to provide short-term support for facilities with high volume of cases or with critical staffing needs
- Enacted a 10 percent MassHealth rate increase (approximately \$50 million) across the board for all nursing facilities
- A long term care portal matches individuals that have registered through the portal with the

State Actions for COVID-19 Management and Response

4. Workforce and Staffing Continued

staffing requests submitted by facilities (with a \$1,000 sign on bonus)
<https://www.mass.gov/info-details/covid-19-updates-and-information>

Michigan (MI)

Vanderbilt University Medical Center, Michigan Medicine

- The multi-institutional collaborative is developing tools to support hospitals, nursing homes, and other medical institutions in projecting front-line workforce needs, re-deploying clinical teams, and protecting the health and well-being of providers
- Tools include a hospital staffing needs calculator, staffing needs projections, COVID-19 response planner, staffing surveys and allocation tools, daily personal protective equipment usage calculator, provider care and resources, and educational resources
<https://www.covidstaffing.org>

Wayne State University Institute of Gerontology

- Researchers at Wayne State University and Eastern Michigan University are studying the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on front line health care workers
<https://myemail.constantcontact.com/Covid-19---Healthcare-Wellness-Survey.html?soid=1109914538426&aid=zVaADxY48ew>

Minnesota (MN)

Statewide Health Care Coordination Center

- Partnered with stakeholders, such as the Board of Nursing, to recruit nursing staff to work in long term care facilities that are not able to fully staff due to staff illness

Missouri (MO)

St. Louis County Department of Public Health

- Established a High-Risk Task Force Team composed of volunteer doctors and registered nurses. Team members serve as liaisons between long term care facilities and the Department of Public Health. Working remotely, team members answer questions, meet informational needs and monitor each facility's supply of personal protective equipment (PPE)
- In some cases, the task force has worked with the St. Louis County Police's Office of Emergency Management to provide PPE to facilities that lack adequate supplies
<https://www.stlcorona.com/news/dph-covid-19-update-4232020>

University of Missouri Sinclair School of Nursing's Quality Improvement Program for Missouri (QIPMO)

- QIPMO is a cooperative service between the University of Missouri Sinclair School of Nursing and the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services. It is composed of gerontological nurses who provide education on best practices to improve care delivery and outcomes for nursing home residents
- QIPMO hosts nursing home leadership support group meetings from which the best practices emerged from participating homes:
 - Alternating staff in teams (one team of 7-10, including housekeeping, dietary, nursing, and one from nursing administration) work 5-7 days on, then 5-7 days off
 - Staff team in 12-hour shifts—again, all staff—this keeps the consistency of patients to staff and allows the staff real rest time, which otherwise they are not getting
 - COVID-19-specific teams in 12-hour rotations
 - Cross-training of staff for housekeeping tasks in the COVID-19 unit to minimize the

State Actions for COVID-19 Management and Response

4. Workforce and Staffing Continued

- number of people in the unit
- Place for staff to change and keep their street clothes, perhaps even shower so it reduces the spread and reduces staff anxiety about bringing it out of the building
<https://nursinghomehelp.org/qipmo-program>

Montana (MT)

Montana Healthcare Mutual Aid System (MHMAS)

- MHMAS is the emergency system for the advance registration of volunteer health professionals for the state of Montana. It serves as the system for identifying, activating, and deploying volunteers during disasters, and functions as a communication tool to provide volunteers with information about training and exercises
<https://dphhs.mt.gov/publichealth/phep/mhmas>

Nebraska (NE)

The National Emerging Special Pathogen Training and Education Center (NETEC)

- NETEC developed a webinar to support health care workers in managing the unique challenges in a pandemic and the elements of a comprehensive “care of the caregiver” strategy, including peer support, building resilience, streamlined behavioral health referrals, preventing moral injury, supporting health care worker families, and leadership. The webinar includes downloadable resources to implement a program
<https://www.nebraskamed.com/for-providers/covid19/workforce-behavioral-health-support>

Nevada (NV)

State of Nevada

- Battle Born Volunteers
- State licensed nursing pools provided as a resource to facilities that require assistance with staffing

New Hampshire (NH)

New Hampshire Employment Security

- Established the Long Term Care Workforce Stabilization Program
- This temporary stabilization funding incentivizes front line, direct-care workers to remain or rejoin this critical workforce during the COVID-19 emergency
<https://www.nhes.nh.gov/services/employers/longtermcare.htm>

New Jersey (NJ)

New Jersey Department of Health

- The Guidance for COVID-19 Diagnosed and/or Exposed Healthcare Providers worksheet provides guidance for health care providers to determine if and when they should return to work; and if they do, how to transition back safely
https://www.nj.gov/health/cd/documents/topics/NCOV/LINCS_Healthcare_Personnel_Return_to_Work.pdf
- The State of New Jersey COVID-19 Jobs and Hiring Portal provides job postings for those out of work due to COVID-19 as well as an additional link for employers to post open positions related to COVID-19
<https://jobs.covid19.nj.gov/?Facets.filterbox.filter0=%5B%5D&Facets.filterbox.filter1=%5B%5D>
- The Road Back: Restoring Economic Health Through Public Health references six key principles

State Actions for COVID-19 Management and Response

4. Workforce and Staffing Continued

for stages of reopening businesses and safely staffing them in New Jersey

<https://covid19.nj.gov/faqs/nj-information/general-public/how-does-new-jersey-plan-to-lift-restrictions-what-does-a-responsible-and-strategic-restart-of-new-jerseys-economy-look-like>

New Jersey Poison Center

- Introduced a health hotline to address the concerns of New Jersey residents. Anyone in the state of New Jersey can call 1-800-962-1253 to speak directly with a health care professional who can provide general information and answer questions about the current outbreak
<https://www.njpies.org/coronavirus>

Office of the Governor Phil Murphy

- On June 3, 2020, Governor Phil Murphy issued a series of recommendations geared toward stabilizing facilities and bolstering the workforce by increasing the responsibilities of and support for New Jersey's nursing homes and their workers
<https://www.nj.gov/governor/news/news/562020/approved/20200603a.shtml>
- On March 28, 2020, Governor Phil Murphy issued an Executive Order waiving the requirements for registered medical technicians (RMT) and certified home health aides (HHA) and allowed them to function in the role of certified nursing assistants (CNA) in long term care facilities
<https://nj.gov/infobank/eo/056murphy/pdf/EO-111.pdf>
- Facilities are expected to provide basic safety and infection orientation
- Facilities must document attempts to meet the staffing standards

New Mexico (NM)

State of New Mexico

- Nursing homes have designated staff for COVID-19 wings, which helps staff take ownership of these residents
- Some staff are now asking to be part of the designated COVID-19 staff team, whereas previously facilities had staff resigning once active cases were identified
- Condensed certified nursing assistant (CNA)/ certified medical assistant (CMA) training program to reduce training time without reducing quality
- Removed restrictions on out-of-state health care workers to assist in COVID-19 response

New York (NY)

New York State Department of Health

- COVID-19 Nursing Home Letter Regarding Residents outlines protocols to separate residents into cohorts of positive, negative, and unknown as well as separate staffing teams to care for COVID-19-positive residents and non-positive residents. If a facility is unable to cohort properly, it must transfer residents to another long term care facility or another non-certified location
<https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/system/files/documents/2020/05/nhletterregarding-residents-4.29.20.pdf>
- Health Advisory: Nursing Home Cohorting FAQs states that roommates of a resident who tests positive for COVID-19, who themselves have a negative test, are at high risk of being infected and a having positive test within the next 14 days. They should be immediately separated from the resident who tests positive and placed in a private room
http://leadingagency.org/home/assets/File/5_13_20-DOH-Nursing_Home_Cohorting_FAQs.pdf
- A National Guard COVID-19 response team provides medical staff at Javits Center and New York City hospitals and testing sites

State Actions for COVID-19 Management and Response

4. Workforce and Staffing Continued

- New York Air National Guard pararescue airmen, who are trained as emergency medical technicians, assist in city hospitals
<https://www.airforcetimes.com/news/coronavirus/2020/04/21/latest-national-guard-covid-19-update-troop-count-at-38700>

New York State Health Facilities Association, New York State Center for Assisted Living

- COVID-19 – Skilled Nursing Facility Visitation Guidance: Utilizing Non-Direct Care Staff to Support Needs describes how some direct or non-direct, non-urgent care can be redirected during the pandemic to assist staff in essential activities. Typical Nurse Aide duties can be shifted to other non-direct care staff so Aides can support staff and resident care
<https://www.nyshfa-nyscal.org/covid-19-skilled-nursing-facility-visitation-guidance>

Office of the Governor Andrew Cuomo

- The Governor and the Commissioner of Health have sent out letters to active and inactive licensees in New York State seeking volunteers to assist in the COVID-19 response efforts
<http://www.op.nysed.gov/COVID-19Volunteers.html>

North Carolina (NC)

North Carolina Division of Health and Human Services

- Established online registration for medical providers interested in picking up additional staffing that includes long term care facilities
- These applications will be matched with requests from health care facilities
<https://nc.readyop.com/fs/4cjq/697b>

North Dakota (ND)

North Dakota Department of Health and Human Services (ND DHHS)

- Hiring furloughed health care professionals to assist with the state's COVID-19 response, including contact tracing. In addition, the ND DHHS is enlisting public health graduate students and the National Guard as contact tracers
https://bismarcktribune.com/news/local/health/contact-tracing-puts-north-dakota-at-forefront/article_ccd6c42a-80ec-5c14-9feb-562ca9130011.html
<https://www.politico.com/news/2020/04/21/tracking-coronavirus-workforce-does-not-exist-197622>

Ohio (OH)

The Cleveland Clinic, SAS

The Cleveland Clinic and SAS have combined forces and data to create new predictive models to better plan staffing, supply chains, financing, etc. due to COVID-19

<https://newsroom.clevelandclinic.org/2020/04/21/cleveland-clinic-and-sas-share-covid-19-predictive-models-to-help-hospitals-plan-for-current-and-future-needs>

Ohio Department of Health

- Responsible Restart Ohio: A Guide for Health Care designed to provide insight and best practices to resume non-urgent health care services across the state through a stepwise approach. This guide is intended to be a resource for patients, providers, health systems, and Ohio's COVID-19 Three Zone response infrastructure as the state begins to resume typical standards of health care

State Actions for COVID-19 Management and Response

4. Workforce and Staffing Continued

<https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/static/responsible/RestartOhio-Health-Care-Guide.pdf>

- COVID-19 Checklist: Recommendations for essential employees in health care and other high-risk settings on actions to help protect their households from COVID-19
<https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/covid-19/checklists/english-checklists/high-risk-workers-returning-home-covid-19-checklist>
- The Congregate Care Unified Response Bridge Team responds to a nursing facility's identified need in emergency situations. The team will collect relevant information from the facility and others on the ground to assist decision making. Once activated, the Bridge Team will coordinate facility communication with all relevant state agencies, the Emergency Operations Center, health care zones, hospitals in the area, and the local health department to provide immediate assistance
https://www.ohca.org/docs/documents/5963/BRIDGE%20TEAM%20GUIDANCE%20AND%20INFO%20FINAL_6.1.20201617139567.pdf

Ohio Department of Medicaid

- Significantly enhanced Medicaid's telehealth policy to allow reimbursement for a wider group of practitioners, services, and setting, including those delivered to residents in nursing facilities and other long term care settings. This was part of the state's overall effort to help reduce exposure to COVID-19 for patients, their families, and the health care workforce engaged in Ohio's response to the pandemic
<https://medicaid.ohio.gov/COVID/ODM-Emergency-Telehealth>

Rhode Island (RI)

Rhode Island Responds

- Offers recruitment and management of Rhode Island's health care volunteers under one state-wide system
<http://www.riresponds.org>

South Carolina (SC)

South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (SC DHEC)

- SC DHEC waived Regulation 61-17, Section 603.C to temporarily allow nursing homes to employ certified South Carolina Emergency Medical Technicians (EMTs) to perform tasks that nurse aides generally perform, including meeting residents' needs for personal hygiene, nutrition, ambulation, and elimination, as well as taking vital signs. This waiver will remain in effect during the declared State of Emergency
<https://scdhec.gov/sites/default/files/media/document/COVID-19-DHEC-Memo-Use-EMTs-NHs.pdf>

Tennessee (TN)

Vanderbilt University Medical Center, the University of Michigan, the Procedural Learning and Safety Collaborative

- Volunteers created a website to help hospitals and nursing facilities of all sizes anticipate their staffing and personal protective equipment (PPE) needs for the COVID-19 surge. Modules included:
 - COVID-19 Staffing Needs Calculator: Calculated staffing needs by clinical role as inpatient census increased
<https://www.covidstaffing.org/modules/staffing-needs>
 - COVID-19 Response Planner: Planned a phased staffing response to COVID-19, based on

State Actions for COVID-19 Management and Response

4. Workforce and Staffing Continued

available beds, staff, and locations

<https://www.covidstaffing.org/modules/response-planner>

- Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Needs Calculator: Calculated PPE needs as inpatient census increased
<https://www.covidstaffing.org/modules/daily-ppe-calculator>
- Staff Skills Surveys: Determined staff skills specific to COVID-19 patient care needs
<https://www.covidstaffing.org/modules/supply>
- Role Allocation Toolkits: Based on staff and trainee skills, assessed COVID-19 patient care roles where staff members could re-deploy
<https://www.covidstaffing.org/modules/supply>

Texas (TX)

State of Texas Assistance Request (STAR), Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC)

- To ensure the safety of residents in facilities that have COVID-19-infected staff, Texas has contingency contracts to provide short-term staffing assistance to facilities that cannot maintain adequate staffing due to COVID-19. This assistance may be requested through a STAR (State of Texas Assistance Request) in coordination with HHSC or local emergency management

Virginia (VA)

LeadingAge Virginia

- Virginia received additional federal funds to focus on infection prevention and control (IPC) training. The goal is to train front line health care workers to incorporate infection prevention practices into their day-to-day practices. Activities will include:
 - Conducting high-level learning needs assessments of Virginia's health care workforce and providing a summary report that identifies training gaps by setting, describes primary spoken and reading languages, and characterizes literacy levels and age
 - Promoting awareness and facilitating uptake of IPC training and education content provided or approved by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). This could include leveraging licensing and certification requirements
 - Conducting and convening trainings for front line providers, including the establishment and implementation of remote learning capabilities

Virginia Department of Health (VDH)

- VDH developed a resource page that provides information and the tools to request and mobilize volunteers from the Virginia Medical Reserve Corp to provide long term care staffing and medical surge support needed for COVID-19 response in the Commonwealth
<https://www.vdh.virginia.gov/mrc/covid19request>

West Virginia (WV)

Stonerise Healthcare LLC

- Stonerise, a nursing home chain in West Virginia, has started "safe harbor" units used to safely accept new admissions. Safe harbor is designed exclusively for all new admissions, distinct units with dedicated staff, and more stringent admission criteria to limit the risk of COVID-19 to existing patients
<http://www.stonerisehealthcare.com/coronavirus-update>

West Virginia Responder Emergency Deployment Information (REDI) System

- Web-based system was developed to facilitate health and medical response through

State Actions for COVID-19 Management and Response

4. Workforce and Staffing Continued

identification, credentialing, and deployment of West Virginians willing to serve in an emergency, as well as non-emergent situations

- Registration is open to West Virginia's health and medical professionals, as well as others who live or work in West Virginia and are willing to assist during a health-related emergency or event
<https://www.wvredi.org>

Wisconsin (WI)

Wisconsin Department of Health Services

- Nurse Aide training was revised by the Wisconsin Department of Health Services, Division of Quality Assurance to address the unprecedented need for additional nursing assistants to join the workforce
<https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/nurse-aide.htm>

5. COHORTING

California (CA)

California Department of Public Health

- Provided resources for skilled nursing facilities (SNFs) on preventing, detecting and preparing for COVID-19 through the following:
- A toolkit titled “Preparing for COVID-19 in California Skilled Nursing Facilities”
<https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CHCQ/LCP/CDPH%20Document%20Library/AFL-20-25-Attachment-01-SNF-Checklist.pdf>
- A toolkit titled “Assessment of California Skilled Nursing Facilities to Receive Patients with Confirmed COVID-19”
<https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CHCQ/LCP/CDPH%20Document%20Library/AFL-20-25-Attachment-05-SNF-Assessment-Checklist.pdf>
- A toolkit titled “Detection and Management of COVID-19 Cases in Skilled Nursing Facilities”
<https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CHCQ/LCP/CDPH%20Document%20Library/AFL-20-25-Attachment-02-SNF-Flowchart.pdf>

San Mateo County Health and the Health Plan of San Mateo

- Announced Centers of Excellence Program for Skilled Nursing Facilities
- Designated three skilled nursing facilities (SNFs) as Centers of Excellence to proactively coordinate care for COVID-19 residents, which were identified for their high standards of patient care and expertise with infection control
- Centers of Excellence will treat COVID-19-positive patients discharged from local hospitals, as well as patients from community settings who have COVID-19 and require a higher level of care
https://www.smchealth.org/sites/main/files/file-attachments/san_mateo_county_health_press_release_centers_for_excellence_skilled_nursing_facilities_april_21st_2020_1.pdf

County of San Luis Obispo, in partnership with Cal Poly San Luis Obispo, Dignity Health and Tenet Healthcare

- Opened its Alternate Care Site located at Cal Poly San Luis Obispo's Recreation Center
- This site will help relieve local hospitals and nursing homes by housing patients with needs between home care and hospitalization
<https://www.emergencyslo.org/en/alternate-care-site.aspx>

Connecticut (CT)

Northbridge Health Care Center (NHCC)

- As a COVID-19 home, NHCC has established routines and care that lend comfort to residents and staff alike
<https://ctmirror.org/2020/05/01/a-visit-outside-a-home-where-all-the-patients-have-covid-19>

Delaware (DE)

Office of the Governor John Carney

- An April 15, 2020 Emergency Order sought to protect residents and workers in nursing facilities
- Governor Carney's order required all nursing facilities in Delaware to immediately:

State Actions for COVID-19 Management and Response

5. Cohorting Continued

- Establish a cohort of staff assigned to care for known or suspected COVID-19 residents
- Designate a room, unit, or floor of the nursing facility as a separate observation area where newly admitted and re-admitted residents are kept for 14 days, while being observed every shift for signs and symptoms of COVID-19
- Designate a room, unit or floor of the nursing facility to care for residents with known or suspected COVID-19
<https://news.delaware.gov/2020/04/15/governor-carney-requires-stricter-measures-in-long-term-care-facilities-to-fight-covid-19>

Florida (FL)

Agency for Health Care Administration

- The number of COVID-19-dedicated facilities in the state has increased from four to six. A seventh facility is anticipated on June 6, 2020, in the Miami-Dade region. The list is maintained on the Florida Agency for Health Care Administration website
- Website includes information about the types of patients are appropriate for transfer, who can discharge patients to these isolation centers, and contact information to discuss potential discharge
https://ahca.myflorida.com/covid-19_inf.shtml

Georgia (GA)

Georgia Department of Public Health

- During a recent Georgia Department of Public Health COVID-19 update call, the director of nursing for a nursing home located in southeast Georgia shared its COVID-19 containment strategies. The facility has had no COVID-19 cases since March 2020:
 - Infection control practices started early to include temperatures of staff and residents
 - Isolation plans were implemented for residents coming from the hospital, dialysis, or other external sources
 - The facility conducted frequent staff education and requested that staff only work in its facility and not others
 - Open windows allow fresh air in the building and residents have outdoor time with social distancing
 - The National Guard has assisted with cleaning
 - The facility continually communicates with families on pandemic activities, including testing as required by the State of Georgia
 - Leadership is committed to keeping all lines of communication open with staff, residents, and families to contain travel and reduce public exposure for the protection of the residents and staff

Office of the Governor Brian P. Kemp

- Issued guidance in consultation with the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) to help mitigate the spread of COVID-19 in nursing homes to include symptom screening for visitors, staff and residents, and separate staffing teams, facilities and units for COVID-19-positive/unknown and COVID-negative residents
<https://gov.georgia.gov/press-releases/2020-04-03/gov-kemp-provides-overview-federal-guidance-mitigate-covid-19-nursing>

5. Cohorting Continued

Hawaii (HI)

University of Hawaii Department of Geriatrics, Healthcare Association of Hawaii

- Long term care (LTC) COVID-19 Project Extension for Community Healthcare Outcomes (ECHO) series continues and has since included topics, such as COVID-19 testing, planning for dementia residents, symptom management, readiness in care homes, and congregate settings
<https://geriatrics.jabsom.hawaii.edu/geriatrics>
<https://geriatrics.jabsom.hawaii.edu/ltss>

Idaho (ID)

The Idaho Healthcare Association, Idaho Department of Health

- In Idaho, the prevalence of active COVID-19 cases in nursing homes is relatively low. The Idaho Healthcare Association, the Idaho Department of Health, and the long term care community have contributed ideas to a state actions report
- Larger nursing home corporations are setting up COVID-19-only units for COVID-19-positive residents and for residents transferred from hospitals for treatment of COVID-19

Indiana (IN)

Indiana State Department of Health (ISDH)

- There are unique challenges in managing COVID-19 in persons with cognitive impairment. On May 16, 2020, the ISDH issued recommendations for nursing homes in handling COVID-19 in memory care units
https://www.coronavirus.in.gov/files/IN_COVID-19_mem%20care%20guidelines%205.16.20.pdf
- On May 11, 2020, a hospital to post-acute care transfer COVID-19 assessment form was updated
https://www.coronavirus.in.gov/files/IN_COVID-19_Hospital to Post-Acute Care Transfer 5.11.20.pdf
- On May 7, 2020, COVID-19 guidance for hospital discharge to long term care facilities was updated
https://www.coronavirus.in.gov/files/IN_COVID-19 LTCtransfer 5.7.20.pdf
- On May 5, 2020, cohorting guidance was updated within the standard operating procedures for long term care facility infection control to reflect COVID-19 changes
https://www.coronavirus.in.gov/files/IN_COVID-19%20LTC%20checklist%205.05.20.pdf
- On May 3, 2020, Communication guidelines for long term care facilities were released
https://www.coronavirus.in.gov/files/IN_COVID-19_comm guidelines 5.3.20.pdf
- On March 23, 2020, a COVID-19 infection prevention toolkit was distributed to 737 facilities by a long term care (LTC) nurse survey team. This comprehensive toolkit included Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) tools and checklists for infection control and ISDH standard operating procedures for cohorting. This included a plan to rapidly implement cohorting of confirmed or presumed COVID-19 patients in long term care facilities
- Long term care nurse surveyors are assigned to nursing homes with COVID-19-positive cases. These surveyors make daily onsite visits to congregate facilities to help them manage resident cohorting
- The state infection preventionist is available daily to all facilities and nurse surveyors with COVID-19-positive residents to help coordinate care and develop an infection prevention plan to keep staff and other residents safe
- The state infection preventionist and long term care nurse surveyors use bed boards and color-coded facility maps to help identify residents, visualize testing results, and facilitate cohorting of

State Actions for COVID-19 Management and Response

5. Cohorting Continued

residents to appropriate zones

https://www.coronavirus.in.gov/files/IN_COVID-19%20IP%20Toolkit%20ISDH_5.5.2020.pdf

Iowa (IA)

GRX Holdings, LLC

- GRx Pharmacies have helped a facility proactively set up an isolation unit, providing med cart, treatment cart and are waiting on a board of pharmacy waiver to provide a separate emergency kit for the unit

<https://www.grxholdings.com>

Massachusetts (MA)

Beaumont Rehabilitation and Skilled Nursing Center, Worcester County, UMass Memorial Medical Center

- UMass Memorial Medical Center helped transform the Beaumont nursing home into a recovery center by helping the facility set up infection control protocols and procedures and providing recommendations to adapt its physical structure
- To properly isolate staff from the residents, Beaumont created walls on each of the four resident care floors, separating the last two resident rooms and the sitting room from the rest of the resident care area. The staff use the two resident rooms for donning and doffing personal protective equipment (PPE) at the beginning and end of shifts, while the sitting room is used for storing PPE and other supplies

<https://www.mcknights.com/news/massachusetts-nursing-home-now-a-covid-19-treatment-facility-may-serve-as-model-for-others-around-country>

Mass.gov

- Approaches to expand capacity for dedicated COVID-19 skilled nursing facilities have included converting existing occupied facilities to fully dedicated COVID-19 facilities; converting empty facilities to new dedicated COVID-19 nursing facilities; and creating dedicated COVID-19 wings within a broader nursing facility
- On-site management and operational support has been provided to assist with staffing, vendors, implementing infection control measures, etc.

<https://www.mass.gov/info-details/covid-19-updates-and-information>

Minnesota (MN)

Minnesota Department of Health

- Bed tracking and cohorting is available to help the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) identify and communicate to homes where there are private rooms, cohorted units, and cohorted buildings to help facilitate care of COVID-19 nursing home residents. Providers are asked to complete a MDH Red Cap survey. Data from the survey is uploaded into the MNTrac system
- COVID-19 case workers are assigned once a nursing home has a COVID-19-positive case. Case managers make daily calls to congregate facilities to help them manage their cases
- The case manager is responsible for communicating, collaborating, and coordinating the care of the COVID-positive residents and develops an infection prevention plan to keep staff and other residents safe

5. Cohorting Continued

Nebraska (NE)

Callaway Good Life Nursing Home Nebraska Infection Control Assessment and Promotion (ICAP) Program, Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services

- A coding system for cohorting residents was developed by a Nebraska nursing home administrator, then spread state-wide by the Nebraska ICAP/Health care-acquired infection team
 - Residents are identified/cohorted as:
 - Red – tested positive area for residents
 - Yellow – not positive, tested negative but exposed to Red people
 - Gray – could be possible exposure
 - Green – with no exposure
- <https://icap.nebraskamed.com/wp-content/uploads/sites/2/2020/04/Cohorting-Plan-for-LTCF-4.17.20.pdf>

Nevada (NV)

Nevada Division of Public and Behavioral Health

- Issued technical bulletin to health care facilities that included cohorting information
- Issued chief medical officer orders regarding cohorting to facilities experiencing infection control issues

New Jersey (NJ)

New Jersey Department of Health

- New resource guides long term care facilities to amend outbreak plans to include plans for testing and retesting staff and residents, cohort COVID-19-positive residents, exclude staff who test positive, and set timeframes and requirements for returning to work in accordance with Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and Department of Health recommendations
<https://www.nj.gov/health/news/2020/approved/20200512a.shtml>
- On May 21, 2020, Governor Murphy took the step of prohibiting admissions to long term care facilities that could not cohort patients and staff
<https://covid19.nj.gov/faqs/nj-information/general-public/what-is-the-state-doing-to-protect-residents-and-staff-at-nursing-homes-or-long-term-care-facilities>

New Mexico (NM)

State of New Mexico

- A COVID-19-only nursing home opened with the support of the health care association and the state survey agency, offering a creative way to address reimbursement of beds that remain open for future COVID-19-positive patients
- An NCI was developed for special populations in a seriously affected rural areas
- Medical shelters were created statewide to provide medical monitoring for self-isolating COVID-19-positive individuals

New York (NY)

Greater New York Hospital Association (GNYHA) Continuing Care Leadership Coalition (CCLC)

- Two New York nursing homes that continue to share their dialysis service quality practice during the COVID-19 outbreak separate COVID-19-positive patients in an isolation room. As the number of COVID-19-positive patients increase, and only if numbers go beyond the isolation room capacity, positive patients will cohort in one unit under Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidelines. All patients and staff are masked at all times; handwashing

State Actions for COVID-19 Management and Response

5. Cohorting Continued

practices are strictly enforced; all dialysis chairs are six feet or more from each other; and routine practice includes cleaning of all surfaces with bleach (1:10 solution) between uses
<http://www.cclcn.org>

New York State Department of Health

- COVID-19 Nursing Home Letter Regarding Residents outlines protocols to separate residents into cohorts of positive, negative, and unknown as well as separate staffing teams to care for COVID-19-positive residents and non-positive residents. If a facility is unable to cohort properly, it must transfer residents to another long term care facility or another non-certified location
<https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/system/files/documents/2020/05/nhletterregarding-residents-4.29.20.pdf>
- Health Advisory: Nursing Home Cohorting FAQs states that roommates of a resident who tests positive for COVID-19, who themselves have a negative test, are at high risk of being infected and a having positive test within the next 14 days. They should be immediately separated from the resident who tests positive and placed in a private room
http://leadingagency.org/home/assets/File/5_13_20-DOH-Nursing_Home_Cohorting_FAQs.pdf

Ohio (OH)

Office of the Governor Mike DeWine

- Governor DeWine created a Minority Health Strike Force to help address issues with COVID-19 and minorities
<https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/static/MHSF/COVID-19-Minority-Health-Strike-Force.pdf>

Rhode Island (RI)

Oak Hill Center in Pawtucket

- Oak Hill Center will now be a central facility to accept COVID-19-positive patients who no longer require acute inpatient care. This will allow these patients to receive specialized rehabilitation and step-down, post-acute care while reserving beds for patients who need inpatient treatment
<https://www.wpri.com/health/coronavirus/oak-hill-center-in-pawtucket-is-now-a-covid-19-specialty-nursing-home>

Texas (TX)

Texas Health and Human Services Commission Regulatory Services

- Created COVID-19 response plan for nursing facilities, which is updated regularly based on federal guidance and state COVID-19 response actions.
- Nursing facilities have created plans for cohorting residents with symptoms of respiratory infection
<https://hhs.texas.gov/sites/default/files/documents/doing-business-with-hhs/provider-portal/long-term-care/nf/covid-response-nursing-facilities.pdf>

Utah (UT)

State of Utah

- In Utah, a COVID-19-only nursing home opened with the support of the health care association and the state survey agency, offering creative ways to handle reimbursement of beds that remain open for future positive COVID-19 patients

Vermont (VT)

Vermont Department of Health

- Memory care units pose unique challenges, and the safety and comfort of patients must be taken into consideration before moving them to isolation units or alternate care facilities. Facilities should consider the feasibility of isolating patients in units where they reside and conducting sequential testing on each patient. In facilities where at least one COVID-19-positive resident or staff member has been identified, its memory care units should be established as negative units. If one or more COVID-19 positive residents or staff are detected within the memory care unit, the entire unit should be designated as a positive cohort.

https://dail.vermont.gov/sites/dail/files//documents/Enhanced_SNF_Interventions_Facilities-2020-05-11.pdf

Wisconsin (WI)

Wisconsin Department of Health Services, Division of Public Health

- Provided guidance on the disposition of medically stable post-acute and long term care residents with confirmed or clinically suspected COVID-19 infection
- Provided guidance on the transfer of hospitalized patients infected with COVID-19 to post-acute and long term care facilities (PALTCFs)
- Provided guidance on the role of COVID-19 testing in decisions around transfers from acute care hospitals to post-acute and long term care facilities

<https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/dph/memos/communicable-diseases/2020-21.pdf>

<https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/dph/memos/communicable-diseases/2020-20.pdf>

<https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/dph/memos/communicable-diseases/2020-19.pdf>

6. INFECTION CONTROL “STRIKE TEAMS”

California (CA)

California Department of Public Health

- Provided resources for skilled nursing facilities (SNFs) to help prevent, detect, and prepare for COVID-19 through the following:
- A toolkit titled “Assessment of California Skilled Nursing Facilities to Receive Patients with Confirmed COVID-19”
<https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CHCQ/LCP/CDPH%20Document%20Library/AFL-20-25-Attachment-05-SNF-Assessment-Checklist.pdf>
- A toolkit titled “Detection and Management of COVID-19 Cases in Skilled Nursing Facilities”
<https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CHCQ/LCP/CDPH%20Document%20Library/AFL-20-25-Attachment-02-SNF-Flowchart.pdf>

Health Services Advisory Group (HSAG)

- HSAG infection preventionists created a mini-webinar series to assist nursing homes with the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) COVID-19 Focused Survey for Nursing Homes. The series highlights the components of the survey and provides guidance. Each 10-minute section is meant to be reviewed with nursing home staff members, possibly during daily huddles. Sections include:
 - Part 1 and 2: General Standard Precautions and Hand Hygiene
 - Part 2: Transmission-Based Precautions
 - Part 2.1: Personal Protective Equipment
 - Part 3: Resident Care and Infection Prevention Standards, Policies, and Procedures
 - Parts 4 and 5: Infection Surveillance
 - Parts 6 and 7: Visitor Entry, Education, Monitoring, and Screening of Staff
 - Parts 8 and 9: Emergency Preparedness, Staffing in Emergencies, and a Summary of the Survey<https://www.hsag.com/en/covid-19/long-term-care-facilities/cms-covid-19-focused-survey-for-nhs>

District of Columbia (D.C.)

The District of Columbia Health Care Association

- Implemented Secret Shoppers for Hand Hygiene, when workers secretly observe other workers and record compliance
<https://www.dchca.org>

Florida (FL)

Florida Department of Health and Florida Health Care Association (FHCA)

- Created COVID-19-dedicated web pages, with links to details of emergency response/strike teams (mobile units)
<http://www.floridahealth.gov/newsroom/2020/04/042020-1845-covid19.pr.html>

Office of the Governor Ron DeSantis

- Ordered the National Guard to test for COVID-19 in nursing homes and ordered strike teams to

6. Infection Control “Strike Teams” Continued

help patrol for asymptomatic carriers as outbreaks occur

<https://thehill.com/changing-america/well-being/prevention-cures/492987-florida-governor-orders-national-guard-to-test>

Orlando Health System

- Orlando Health System implemented “COVID Safety Officers (CSOs)” in all its facilities. This health system includes acute care, two long term care facilities and physician practices. Every shift, a designated staff person is the CSO tasked to observe employees donning and doffing personal protective equipment (PPE), performing appropriate hand hygiene, and assuring that all other infection control and prevention policies and procedures are being followed. This has provided a level of reassurance to the long term care facilities in the greater Orlando area when accepting transfers from acute care from this health system

Idaho (ID)

The Idaho Healthcare Association, Idaho Department of Health

- The Office of the Governor Brad Little COVID-19 strike team has focused primarily on supporting hospitals and nursing homes by releasing emergency funding and enacting stay-at-home guidance

Indiana (IN)

The Indiana State Department of Health Division of Survey and Certification

- Developed COVID-19-focused state survey requirements
- Created strike teams to conduct testing in nursing homes when potential or positive COVID-19 cases are seen in residents or staff members

Iowa (IA)

Office of the Governor Kim Reynolds

- A testing strike team was sent to Tama County in response to an outbreak at a long term care facility. All staff at the facility were tested for COVID-19

Maryland (MD)

Office of the Governor Larry Hogan

- Launched statewide strike teams on April 7, 2020 comprised of the National Guard, state and local health department representatives, emergency medical services (EMS) clinicians, and doctors and nurses from local hospital systems
- The strike teams provide on-site medical triage, supplies, and equipment to overburdened nursing homes in order to slow the spread of the virus among Maryland’s most vulnerable population
- Three strike teams will be activated in response to requests from nursing homes, local health departments and Maryland Department of Health (MDH) infectious disease experts
- Testing teams identify those in close contact with a confirmed case and collect and send out specimens for the fastest test available
- Assistance teams quickly assess the situation on-site, determine equipment and supply needs and triage residents
- Clinical teams include doctors, nurse practitioners and registered nurses from major hospital systems, tasked with providing on-site medical triage and stabilizing residents

<https://governor.maryland.gov/2020/04/07/governor-hogan-activates-statewide-strike-teams->

State Actions for COVID-19 Management and Response

6. Infection Control “Strike Teams” Continued

[for-nursing-homes-enacts-order-to-shut-down-unsafe-facilities
https://www.washingtonpost.com/local/virginia-politics/maryland-forms-strike-teams-to-combat-nursing-home-coronavirus-outbreaks-in/2020/04/07/0792b312-78f5-11ea-a130-df573469f094_story.html](https://www.washingtonpost.com/local/virginia-politics/maryland-forms-strike-teams-to-combat-nursing-home-coronavirus-outbreaks-in/2020/04/07/0792b312-78f5-11ea-a130-df573469f094_story.html)

Michigan (MI)

Doctors Without Borders, Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS), Superior Health Quality Alliance

- Doctors Without Borders/Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF), an international medical humanitarian organization, is running COVID-19 health education and infection prevention trainings in Michigan nursing homes to help prevent the spread of the virus
- MSF has also begun working in coordination with MDHHS and the Detroit Health Department to quickly identify which nursing home facilities are in need of infection control assistance
- MSF is coordinating with Superior Health Quality Alliance, the Quality Improvement Organization (QIO) for the states of Michigan, Minnesota, and Wisconsin. The team is offering activities to help protect residents and staff, including assessments and general guidance to improve infection prevention and control practices, and mental health workshops to address the high level of stress and grief that the front line staff face every day

https://www.michigan.gov/mdhhs/0,5885,7-339-73970_71692_71696-531944--m_2016_7,00.html

Minnesota (MI)

Department of Health

- Implemented enhanced respiratory surveillance in long term care facilities to rapidly identify any potential outbreaks of COVID-19 on March 17, 2020

Mississippi (MS)

Mississippi State Department of Health, Office of Epidemiology

- Created regional outbreak response teams to facilitate testing in nursing homes when potential or positive COVID-19 cases are seen in residents or staff members. Providing guidance and support to nursing homes with outbreaks

New Jersey (NJ)

Office of Congressman Josh Gettheimer

- Sponsored Outside Support (SOS) Act of 2020 legislation to create strike teams of clinical and non-clinical staff to provide immediate support to nursing homes, long term care facilities, and skilled nursing facilities experiencing outbreaks of COVID-19 in New Jersey and across the country. Bill will authorize the U.S. Secretary Health and Human Services (HHS) to allocate investment to states for the creation of these strike teams

<https://gettheimer.house.gov/news/documentsingle.aspx?DocumentID=2004>

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA)

- The VA organized five 10-person health care strike teams in five New Jersey nursing homes, consisting of VA medical workers, clinical staff, nurses, and nursing assistants
- <https://www.msn.com/en-us/news/us/federal-va-to-send-strike-teams-to-coronavirus-stricken-nj-nursing-homes-as-deaths-mount/ar-BB145Fnr>

New Mexico (NM)

State of New Mexico

State Actions for COVID-19 Management and Response

6. Infection Control “Strike Teams” Continued

- Implemented enhanced respiratory surveillance in long term care facilities to rapidly identify any potential outbreaks of COVID-19

New York (NY)

Continuing Care Leadership Coalition

- Members established and educated staff regarding its COVID-19 response strategic plan
- Responses comprised the areas of clinical management; personal protective equipment (PPE) and relevant supplies inventory, procurement, distribution, use and conservation; staff management and volunteer coordination; wellness and symptom monitoring; risk assessment; establishment of criteria for testing; infection control; non-essential personnel suspension; immediate reporting of significant changes in resident and/or staff condition; ancillary services management; partnership with hospitals; advance care planning establishment or review; and ongoing communication with staff, residents and families
<http://cclcnny.org/providing-quality-across-the-continuum/care-coordination-across-the-continuum>

New York State Department of Health

- COVID-19 Infection Control Guidance for Nursing Homes and Adult Care Facilities: Official state guidance regarding infection control practices, case reporting, and other vital aspects of the COVID-19 response in nursing homes in New York
<https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/system/files/documents/2020/03/covid-19infectioncontrolguidanceguidancewebinarforfnhsandacfs3-26-20.pdf>
- Interim Guidance for Cleaning and Disinfection of Public and Private Facilities for COVID-19: Official state recommendations regarding supplies and processes to be utilized to reduce transmission of COVID-19
https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/system/files/documents/2020/03/cleaning_guidance_general_building.pdf

North Carolina (NC)

Office of the Governor Roy Cooper

- On June 4, 2020, Governor Cooper issued Executive Order No. 143, establishing the Andrea Harris Social, Economic, Environmental, and Health Equity Task Force to focus on economic stability, health disparities, and environmental justice in the state. Other state departments were directed to provide targeted measures to help communities of color recover from COVID-19
<https://files.nc.gov/governor/documents/files/EO143-Addressing-the-Disproportionate-Impact-of-COVID-19-on-Communities-of-Color.pdf>

North Dakota (ND)

State of North Dakota

- The State of North Dakota Hospital Coordination and Vulnerable Population Protection Plan 2020 COVID-19 Pandemic Response plan was drafted to ensure that hospitals and communities have resources to handle a potential surge of COVID-19 patients. The plan provides the framework for the State of North Dakota in collaboration with hospitals, long term care facilities, the North Dakota National Guard (NDNG), and other state and local agencies to serve the health care needs of citizens with COVID-19 that require hospitalization. A six-point plan identifies key actions that will guide the State, hospitals, and care facilities through a tiered

6. Infection Control “Strike Teams” Continued

system

<https://ndresponse.gov/sites/www/files/documents/covid-19/Additional%20Resources/Hospitals%20and%20VP3%20FINAL.pdf>

Ohio (OH)

Office of the Governor Mike DeWine

- To address the coronavirus crisis in Ohio nursing homes, the state is conducting more aggressive strategies to stop the virus by deploying a strike team to nursing homes to organize both preventative and treatment measures

<https://www.cleveland.com/coronavirus/2020/05/ohios-strategy-to-fight-coronavirus-at-nursing-homes-deploying-testing-strike-teams-to-affected-facilities.html>

Ohio Department of Health (ODH), Ohio Department of Medicaid (ODM)

- ODH and ODM partnered to develop a regulatory and payment structure for Health Care Isolation Centers that will provide a nursing facility level of care to patients who require quarantine and/or those who require care for an active COVID-19 infection

https://leadingageohio.org/aws/LAO/asset_manager/get_file/444806?ver=58

Texas (TX)

Office of the Governor Greg Abbott

- On April 27, 2020, Governor Abbott announced the formation of the Rapid Assessment Quick Response Force to provide rapid response to nursing facilities that can be deployed upon request by the Texas Health and Human Services Commission and Department of State Health Services through the Long-Term Care Regulatory and Emergency Medical Task Force. If needed, an additional team can be sent to assist the facility with immediate needs

<https://gov.texas.gov/uploads/files/organization/opentexas/OpenTexas-Report.pdf>

7. INFECTION CONTROL SURVEYS AND OTHER STATE SURVEY ACTIVITY

Alaska (AK)

Alaska State Department of Epidemiology and State Survey Agency

- Organized collaborative weekly sessions to review and provide updates to nursing homes and assisted living facilities
- Revised infection prevention assessment checklists to be relevant to smaller rural settings
- Updated survey assessment tool

California (CA)

California Department of Public Health (CDPH)

- CDPH required all nursing homes to expand their infection control policies by submitting a mitigation plan by June 1, 2020 that included these six elements:
 - Testing and cohorting
 - Infection prevention and control
 - Personal protective equipment (PPE)
 - Staffing shortages
 - Designation of space
 - Communication
- To assist nursing homes in strengthening and effectively implementing their plans, CDPH partnered with the California Association of Long Term Care Medicine and Health Services Advisory Group, the California Quality Improvement Organization (QIO), to host calls every Wednesday and Thursday to provide infection prevention education and field questions from providers
<https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CHCQ/LCP/Pages/AFL-20-52.aspx>

Health Services Advisory Group (HSAG)

- HSAG infection preventionists created a mini-webinar series to assist nursing homes with the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) COVID-19 Focused Survey for Nursing Homes. The series highlights the components of the survey and provides guidance. Each 10-minute section is meant to be reviewed with nursing home staff members, possibly during daily huddles. Sections include:
 - Part 1 and 2: General Standard Precautions and Hand Hygiene
 - Part 2: Transmission-Based Precautions
 - Part 2.1: Personal Protective Equipment
 - Part 3: Resident Care and Infection Prevention Standards, Policies, and Procedures
 - Parts 4 and 5: Infection Surveillance
 - Parts 6 and 7: Visitor Entry, Education, Monitoring, and Screening of Staff
 - Parts 8 and 9: Emergency Preparedness, Staffing in Emergencies, and a Summary of the Survey<https://www.hsag.com/en/covid-19/long-term-care-facilities/cms-covid-19-focused-survey-for-nhs>

Colorado (CO)

Office of the Governor Jared Polis

- Initiated a COVID-19 Innovation Response Team, taking a multipronged approach to include

State Actions for COVID-19 Management and Response

7. Infection Control Surveys and Other State Survey Activity Continued

increased testing, tailored social-distancing measures, a reinforced health care system, and a bolstering of state epidemiological resources

- The Colorado Department of Health and Environment (CDPHE) conducts weekly infection control surveys and weekly stakeholder calls with the infectious disease division, the survey and certification division, and the nursing homes; it also works with the emergency command center to support nursing homes

<https://coloradosun.com/2020/04/20/colorado-national-guard-nursing-home-testing>

Connecticut (CT)

Connecticut Department of Public Health

- Conducts on-site visits to all of Connecticut's nursing homes and long term care facilities for infection control survey

<https://portal.ct.gov/DPH/Facility-Licensing--Investigations/NURSING-HOME-SITE/Nursing-Home-Inspections>

Florida (FL)

Agency for Health Care Administration (SSA)

- Nursing home infection control surveys are being completed and shared on its website

<https://ahca.myflorida.com>

Georgia (GA)

Georgia Department of Public Health

- The ability to provide on-site support and develop a process for video audits has been invaluable to those in "hot spots" of COVID-19 activity. The agency collects data from health care facilities on the State Electronic Notifiable Disease Surveillance System for Georgia (SENDSS) network, supports health care facilities with virtual and on-site visits, and tests COVID-19 samples at the Georgia Department of Public Health Laboratory

<https://dph.georgia.gov>

Indiana (IN)

The Indiana State Department of Health Division of Long-term Care

- Beginning on April 6, 2020, the Department has followed up on every new positive case, either by daily long term care surveyor phone calls or visits, to ensure a plan is in place to care for COVID-19-positive residents
- Since April 15, 2020, protocols have included:
 - 1-10 positive cases receive weekly visits and calls
 - 11-20 positive cases receive twice-weekly visits
 - 21 cases and higher receive daily visits until stable, then visits every other day
 - Positive staff cases only receive Monday, Wednesday, and Friday calls
- Referrals for infection preventionist follow-up occur with concerns or when additional assistance is needed
- The Department has contracted with a professional long term care nursing company to perform outreach and test result calls

Montana (MT)

State of Montana

- Montana has requested that all long term care and assisted living facilities complete and submit

7. Infection Control Surveys and Other State Survey Activity Continued

the infection control self-assessment worksheet provided in QSO-20-14-NH dated March 13, 2020. State survey and licensing staff are reviewing all submissions and working with facilities on a case-by-case basis to strengthen infection control

- Montana is conducting targeted infection control surveys in facilities using risk-based criteria to determine facility selection and scheduling

Nevada (NV)

Nevada Division of Public and Behavioral Health

- Distributed infection control and prevention assessment surveys tailored to relevant settings, analyzing information to identify gaps to help target education
- Organized collaborative weekly sessions with skilled nursing facility and assisted living associations to review and provide updates to nursing homes and assisted living facilities
- Currently performing onsite infection control surveys in skilled nursing facilities, larger assisted living facilities, and long term acute care hospitals
- Collaborating with the Nevada National Guard to visit smaller group homes and provide educational materials on donning and doffing personal protective equipment (PPE), environmental cleaning, hand hygiene, and preventive measures to protect residents from contracting COVID-19. This information is being translated into Spanish and Tagalog. The National Guard will help smaller facilities order PPE if needed

New Jersey (NJ)

New Jersey Department of Health

- The New Jersey COVID-19 Information Hub provides the most up-to-date information about COVID-19 and the State's response, including information about services such as food support and small business assistance
<https://www.nj.gov/health/cd/topics/ncov.shtml>

New Mexico (NM)

State of New Mexico

- Organized collaborative weekly sessions to review and provide updates to nursing homes, intermediate care facilities (ICFs), skilled nursing facilities (SNFs), and assisted living facilities
- State survey staff use video monitoring for daily surveillance calls to nursing facilities

New York (NY)

LeadingAge New York

- "Recommendations to Nursing Homes in COVID-19 Crisis" provides guidance to nursing homes on infection control, including the new Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) infection control survey tool. LeadingAge has created a supplemental tool to be used in conjunction with the CMS tool to help nursing homes prepare for and respond to COVID-19
<https://leadingage.org/regulation/cms-issues-new-recommendations-nursing-homes-covid-19-crisis>

North Dakota (ND)

North Dakota State Survey Agency

- Every nursing home in North Dakota receives a state survey visit focused on infection prevention
- The agency collaborated with the Great Plains Quality Innovation Network (QIN) using an online tool to assess all nursing homes on infection preparedness; about 30 nursing homes volunteered

7. Infection Control Surveys and Other State Survey Activity Continued

for a more comprehensive assessment

South Carolina (SC)

South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC)

- SC DHEC maintains a web page that provides state and federal resources and updates on changes to infection control policies and guidelines
<https://scdhec.gov/infectious-diseases/viruses/coronavirus-disease-2019-covid-19/nursing-homes-covid-19>

Texas (TX)

State of Texas

- Created a surveyor job aid tool to help ensure thorough reviews during a focused infection control survey or investigation. The job aid tool details questions the surveyor must ask and information that must be gathered. It includes the tag/regulatory reference for the requirements related to the questions or information, and space for the surveyor to document information

Texas Department of Health and Human Services

- Starting June 11, 2020, Special Infection Control Assessment (SICA) teams will be conducting on-site assessments at nursing facilities to identify infection control concerns and to provide immediate recommendations and guidance to facility leadership on infection control practices and mitigation strategies
<https://hhs.texas.gov/about-hhs/communications-events/news/2020/06/nf-special-infection-control-assessments>

Texas Department of State Health Services

- The Texas Department of State Health Services has created a robust contact tracing program and web-based application to find and follow up with people who have been in close contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19. This will also be helpful for tracking cases related to nursing facility outbreaks
<https://dshs.texas.gov/coronavirus/tracing.aspx>

Vermont (VT)

Vermont Department of Disabilities, Aging and Independent Living

- The Self-Assessment of Infection Control Program for State Licensed Homes tool is intended to provide a framework for homes and residences to assess infection control readiness. Managers or nurses may use the tool to confirm that the infection control program aligns with health care standards (if applicable to population), or to identify gaps in existing policies and procedures that may need to be addressed during the COVID-19 pandemic
https://dail.vermont.gov/sites/dail/files/documents/COVID19_Self_Assessment_for_State_Licensed_Facilities.pdf

7. Infection Control Surveys and Other State Survey Activity Continued

Virginia (VA)

Health Quality Innovators (HQI)

- Developed a COVID-19 Focused Survey Readiness Book Guide to help facilities prepare for the COVID-19 Focused Survey
https://www.hqi.solutions/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/COVID-19-Focused-Survey-Readiness-Book-5-19-2020_508.pdf

West Virginia (WV)

West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources

- The Office of Inspector General, Office of Health Facility, Licensure and Certification maintains regular contact and communication via a statewide listserv with all nursing home administrators, regional nursing home representatives, corporate nursing home representatives, the provider association, and the state long term care ombudsman to disseminate information and answer questions. In addition, the office, among other actions:
 - Coordinated the fitting of 12 nursing home surveyors with N95 masks and Tyvek suits
 - Disseminated Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidance to all West Virginia nursing homes via listserv, including the Infection Control Toolkit
 - Mandated all nursing home administrators and key personnel participate in a webinar to discuss statewide testing requirements for the Governor's Executive Order

Wisconsin (WI)

Wisconsin Department of Human Services Division of Quality Assurance

- Offers weekly Q&A calls for nursing homes; shares resources for community and health care providers; and integrates the expertise of infectious disease leader Dr. Chris Crnich, State Survey Agency Bureau of Nursing Home Resident Care Director Ann Angell, and state public health leadership

Wyoming (WY)

Wyoming Aging Division, Survey and Certification Bureau and Surveillance Epidemiologist, Wyoming Healthcare Association

- The Wyoming Healthcare Association offers weekly collaborative calls and bilateral support sessions for long term care and assisted living facilities

8. NURSING HOME (NH) COMMUNICATIONS

Alabama (AL)

Office of the Governor Kay Ivey

- The Office of the Governor amended the "Safer at Home Order," effective May 22, 2020 through July 3, 2020. The amended Safer at Home Order is the second phase of a multiphase statewide plan to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 in Alabama. The new updates apply to the re-opening of entertainment venues, athletic activities, educational institutions, child care facilities, and summer camps. Hospitals and long term care facilities are still to prohibit visitors and non-essential health care personnel. See #16 on the linked document regarding nursing home restrictions on visitation
<https://altogetheralabama.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/Safer-at-Home-Order-FINAL-5.21.2020.pdf>

Alaska (AK)

Office of the Governor Mike Dunleavy, Alaska Department of Health and Social Services, Alaska Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management

- The Alaska.gov website includes a unified command page with a section providing guidance and a checklist for developing critical infrastructure community/workforce protective plans
- Plans must be developed and submitted to the state prior to the start of any interstate and intra-state travel of essential employees unable to complete a 14-day self-quarantine
<https://covid19.alaska.gov/unified-command>

Arizona (AZ)

2-1-1 Arizona

- Launched a statewide COVID-19 Hotline that offers an entry point to field questions and concerns from Arizona residents about COVID-19
<https://211arizona.org/covid-19>

Bandera Healthcare

- Hosts weekly calls with key physicians in nursing homes and local nearby hospitals (e.g., hospitalists, skilled nursing facilities (SNFs), primary care providers, and infectious disease physicians) to identify gaps in knowledge, training, and personal protective equipment (PPE) issues and to provide updates on the current state of operations and address staff shortages and fears

Health Services Advisory Group (HSAG)

- Convenes a weekly call with stakeholders to coordinate communication between hospitals and nursing homes. Calls focus on providers sharing status of COVID-19 inpatients, emergency department surges, nursing home capacity, personal protective equipment (PPE) and testing resources, infection prevention training, and use of telemedicine. Participants include hospitals, nursing homes, state agencies, and nursing home trade associations
- HSAG developed a special SharePoint site that included a section for Q&As, announcements, and new resources. This site also included a nursing home bed-count tracker to improve care coordination between hospitals and post-acute care

Maricopa County Public Health Department

State Actions for COVID-19 Management and Response

8. Nursing Home (NH) Communications Continued

- Holds weekly calls with long term care providers to update the community on case counts, guidelines, personal protective equipment (PPE) distribution, and other important issues during the pandemic
<https://www.maricopa.gov/5496/Long-Term-Care-Facilities>
- Facilities receive a weekly survey, which is then analyzed by county officials. Infection preventionists can then target facilities most in need of technical assistance and PPE distribution
- The Arizona Department of Human Services and Unified Command are both purchasing PPE and are prioritizing distributing the bulk of the PPE to long term care facilities for the protection of the most vulnerable
<https://www.maricopa.gov/5460/Coronavirus-Disease-2019>

The Navajo Nation Commission on Emergency Management

- Declared a public health state of emergency for the Navajo Nation and created a web page with information, maps, and resources about the coronavirus response in their local area
<https://navajo-nation-coronavirus-response-ndoh-nec.hub.arcgis.com>

Poison Control Hotline

- Developed an additional line to field COVID-19-specific questions from nursing homes across the state
- COVID-19 Hotline: 1-844-542-8201

Windsor Ridgecrest

- This nursing home leverages social media (Facebook and LinkedIn) to increase morale, optimism, and to reassure its community about loved ones in their nursing home
https://drive.google.com/file/d/1pRpLD4wLHac4T_gY8D1_aWpHsvdjDNVn/view

California (CA)

California Association of Long Term Care Medicine (CALTCM)

- Has hosted weekly webinars since March 9, 2020, featuring state actions to help nursing homes understand infection prevention state actions. In addition, CALTCM actively appears in the media and writes white papers and guidelines to assist public health officials and providers to ensure the safety of nursing home residents and staff
- CALTCM developed the Long term Care Quadruple Aim, which includes 1) stellar infection control, including a full-time infection preventionist in every nursing home; 2) access to sufficient personal protective equipment (PPE); 3) readily available testing for symptomatic and asymptomatic staff and residents; and 4) incident command mode

Colorado (CO)

Office of the Governor Jared Polis

- Colorado Governor Jared Polis initiated a COVID-19 Innovation Response Team, taking a multipronged approach and including increased testing, tailored social-distancing measures, a reinforced health care system, and a bolstering of state epidemiological resources
<https://covid19.colorado.gov/press-release/state-announces-residential-outbreak-task-force>

Delaware (DE)

Delaware Health Care Facilities Association (DHCFA)

- Placed large signs with room numbers on long term care facility windows so families could easily

State Actions for COVID-19 Management and Response

8. Nursing Home (NH) Communications Continued

identify their loved ones

- Initiated a cohort for medical directors, directors of nursing, and infection preventionists within nursing homes and assisted living facilities in collaboration with the AMDA - Society for Post-Acute and Long-term Care Medicine. This cohort has hosted speakers on best practices and lessons learned from other states
- A medical director listserv was created for peer-to-peer communication
- Facilitates one-on-one electronic communication with facility ombudsman to ensure families are connected to staff on important information

<https://www.dhcfa.org>

Delaware (DE) and New Jersey (NJ)

LeadingAge

- Offered a free one-week program to help caregivers and the aging population overcome COVID-19 challenges. The program was held daily via Zoom for one week, with a different daily topic delivered by experts

<https://leadingagenjide.org/event/the-covid-19-tool-kit-2>

Florida (FL)

Florida Department of Health and Agency for Health Care Administration

- The Florida Health Care Association hosts weekly conference calls for all nursing homes with presentations and Q&A sessions with the State Surgeon General Scott Rivkees and Secretary Mary Mayhew of the Florida Agency for Health Care Administration. Each session is recorded and posted online
https://www.fhca.org/facility_operations/coronavirus
- Information is routinely shared through Eblasts and posted on the Agency's COVID-19 website at http://ahca.myflorida.com/COVID-19_Facilities.shtml#facility

Florida Health Care Association (FHCA)

- Created a COVID-19-dedicated web page with information on its personal protective equipment (PPE) train-the-trainer webinar and more
https://www.fhca.org/facility_operations/coronavirus
- Created a special communication designed to keep FHCA members, legislators, state officials, and other stakeholders abreast of the positive news in the long term care profession during the COVID-19 public health emergency

Florida Medical Director's Association

- Convened a collaborative call with the Florida Healthcare Association, Florida Hospital Association, Emergency Medical Services, and Social Security Administration

Georgia (GA)

Office of the Governor Brian P. Kemp

- On June 11, 2020, Governor Kemp issued an Executive Order stating that controlled outdoor visitations may occur as part of a compassionate plan of care, so long as state guidelines are followed. The shelter-in-place order for long term facilities remains in place until July 12, 2020
<https://gov.georgia.gov/executive-action/executive-orders/2020-executive-orders>

Hawaii (HI)

Office of the Governor David Ige

- Provides a COVID-19 Project ECHO education and training series. Sessions occur weekly and all long term care and assisted living facilities are invited
 - Series topics include: donning/doffing personal protective equipment (PPE), repurposing PPE, COVID-19 testing procedures, resident isolation and staff quarantine, and telemedicine in long term care
- <https://geriatrics.jabsom.hawaii.edu/geriatrics>
<https://geriatrics.jabsom.hawaii.edu/ltss>

Illinois (IL)

Chicago Department of Public Health

- Created a dedicated website with specific long term care guidance to implement appropriate infection prevention and control, rapidly identify potentially infected staff/visitors, monitor residents for signs and symptoms of infection, access testing for residents and facility staff, investigate clusters of COVID-19, and connect to needed resources, including personal protective equipment (PPE)
- <https://www.chicagohan.org/covid-19/LTCF>

Health Care Council of Illinois (HCCI)

- Developed COVID-19 Resource page, updated daily with information regarding state and federal regulations, infection control, personal protective equipment (PPE), and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) information
 - Prepares weekly member newsletters and email blasts on COVID-19-related resources and events throughout the state
- <http://www.hccil.org/covid-19>

Illinois Department of Public Health

- Created the Coronavirus Disease 2019 website, which includes long term care guidance, information on facility outbreaks, and a link to Governor J.B. Pritzker's daily briefing
- <https://www.dph.illinois.gov/covid19>
- Alerts Illinois long term care providers daily through the COVID-19 communication plan and the State of Illinois Rapid Electronic Notification System (SIREN)
- <https://www.siren.illinois.gov>
<https://www.dph.illinois.gov/covid19/daily-communications>

Indiana (IN)

Indiana State Department of Health (ISDH)

- On May 3, 2020, communication guidelines for long term care facilities were released
- https://www.coronavirus.in.gov/files/IN_COVID-19_comm_guidelines_5.3.20.pdf
- Developed communication guidelines for reporting facility COVID-19 status
 - Developed strategy guidelines for COVID-19 in memory care units
 - Created an outreach email for those families having difficulty receiving COVID-19 communication on loved ones from long term care facilities
 - Released the Outdoor Family Visitation at long term care facilities on June 3, 2020; followed CMS and CDC guidance restricting visitation, except in end-of-life circumstances. These restrictions, however, are not without consequences. Recognizing that isolation has serious

State Actions for COVID-19 Management and Response

8. Nursing Home (NH) Communications Continued

impacts on the health and well-being of residents in these facilities, Indiana State Department of Health released guidance that facilities must follow to allow for outdoor visitation with residents https://www.coronavirus.in.gov/files/IN_COVID-19%20outdoor%20visit%206.3.20.pdf

- On June 3, 2020, ISDH released an update to its COVID-19 Toolkit for Long Term Care Facilities that had been issued on May 16, 2020 https://www.coronavirus.in.gov/files/IN_COVID-19%20IP%20Toolkit%20ISDH_6.3.2020.pdf
- Essential Family Caregivers in Long Term Care Facilities - Released update on June 5, 2020
 - Recognizing the critical role family members and other outside caregivers (e.g., friends, volunteers and private personal caregivers) often have in the care and support of residents, it is recommended that long term care facilities (LTCFs) consider designating as Essential Family Caregivers (EFCs) those family members and other outside caregivers who, prior to visitor restrictions, were regularly engaged with the resident at least two or more times per week to provide companionship and/or assist with activities requiring one-on-one direction
 - The goal of EFCs is to help high-risk residents who are missing care previously provided by a loved one or outside caregiver https://www.coronavirus.in.gov/files/IN_COVID-19%20EFCs%206.5.20.pdf
- Long Term Care Facility Outdoor Visitation Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) - Released June 5, 2020
 - Contains frequently asked questions regarding the guidance released on June 3, 2020 regarding outdoor visitation https://www.coronavirus.in.gov/files/Outdoor%20Visitation%20FAQ_6.5.20.pdf

The Richard M. Fairbanks School of Public Health ECHO Center at Indiana University Purdue University of Indianapolis

- Developed a COVID-19-specific ECHO program effective April 1, 2020. ECHO uses Zoom teleconferencing for real-time answers from subject-matter experts to questions from physician practices, produced live and at no-cost with clinical continuing medical education (CME) credits available <https://fsph.iupui.edu/doc/COVID-19-ECHO-Launch-.pdf>

Iowa (IA)

Iowa Department of Inspections and Appeals

- Fields individual nursing home questions specific to survey or regulation, created a website FAQ document for support on common questions, and provides 1135 waiver guidance. During surveys, the Department encourages nursing homes to reach out to the Quality Improvement Organization (QIO) or Iowa Department of Public Health (IDPH) for support <https://dia.iowa.gov/about/novel-coronavirus-covid-19>

Iowa Long Term Care Ombudsman

- Provides individual nursing home support for advocacy of needs at resident level
- Supports residents and families with concerns
- Encourages nursing homes to reach out to the Quality Improvement Organization, the Department of Inspections and Appeals (DIA), and the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) for support
- Website houses multiple resources <https://www.iowaaging.gov/educational-resources/covid-19-older-iowans>

Kansas (KS)

Kansas Department for Aging and Disability Services (KDAD)

- Nursing Facilities Reopening Requirements and Recommendations: Intended to provide requirements and recommendations to Kansas nursing facilities regarding COVID-19 testing and the reopening of their homes to visitors and services, using a phased approach based on information from Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE), Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)
<https://www.coronavirus.kdheks.gov/DocumentCenter/View/1302/KDADS-Nursing-Facility-Reopening-Guidance-PDF--6-12-2020>

LeadingAge Kansas

- Guide to outdoor time for residents during COVID-19
<https://lks.memberclicks.net/outdoor-time-for-residents>

Maryland (MD)

FutureCare Nursing Homes

- In light of COVID-19, FutureCare has rolled out a robust new telecommunication system. It enables each patient to have remote face to face communications with their loved ones
<https://futurecare.com/news/new-telecommunication-system-at-futurecare-/328>

Health Facilities Association of Maryland (HFAM)

- Provides daily email updates to facilities with information about new Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) or Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidance, new Maryland Health Department transmittals, and reminders to submit COVID-19 information daily to CRISP (Chesapeake Regional Information System). They include links to the CMS weekly COVID-19 calls. There have been links to personal protective equipment (PPE) suppliers, available childcare, best practices, etc. They have included supportive letters and YouTube clips from legislators
<https://www.hfam.org/covid-19>

LifeSpan Network

- Provides long term care providers with COVID-19 resources for the State of Maryland and nationwide via its website. Lifespan is the official Chesapeake Regional Information System for our Patients (CRISP) liaison for Maryland nursing homes
<https://www.lifespan-network.org/coronavirus-resources-long-term-care-providers>

Lorien Health Services

- Released a CEO letter to families, giving them an update on the current status of positive COVID-19 cases amongst residents and staff in its different nursing centers
<https://www.lorienhealth.com/coronavirus-info>

Massachusetts (MA)

Executive Office of Health and Human Services/MassHealth

- Through Mass Health Nursing Facility Bulletin 145, MassHealth is implementing measures to monitor infection control policies employed at nursing facilities to protect against the spread of COVID-19, specifically requiring submission of infection control self-assessment and attestation

State Actions for COVID-19 Management and Response

8. Nursing Home (NH) Communications Continued

https://www.mass.gov/files/documents/2020/04/28/NF-145.pdf?_ga=2.143249136.416337626.1589998387-605714014.1587663503

- Through Administrative Bulletin 20-53, MassHealth is establishing supplemental payments for MassHealth-covered nursing facility services. The payments are in part associated with compliance with COVID-19 testing requirements as outlined in the bulletin
<https://www.mass.gov/doc/administrative-bulletin-20-53-101-cmr-20600-standard-payments-to-nursing-facilities-0/download>
https://www.mass.gov/files/documents/2020/04/28/NF-145.pdf?_ga=2.143249136.416337626.1589998387-605714014.1587663503
<https://www.mass.gov/doc/administrative-bulletin-20-53-101-cmr-20600-standard-payments-to-nursing-facilities-0/download>
- The Office of Health and Human Services has issued reopening guidelines on its COVID-19 website
<https://www.mass.gov/info-details/covid-19-updates-and-information#reopening-massachusetts->

Massachusetts Senior Care

- Secured donations of 750 tablets from companies including Amazon, Walmart, Teel Technologies, and Acer, as well as a financial contribution from Personable, Inc., to nursing home residents across the state to facilitate face-to-face communication with their loved ones during the COVID-19 pandemic

Minnesota (MN)

Minnesota Department of Health (MDH)

- Offers public reporting of congregate facilities with COVID-19 cases updated daily on the MDH website. MDH waits 48 hours to list the congregate facilities to allow the facility to notify residents and families
- Guidance for window visits at long term care facilities
<https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/hcp/ltcwindows.pdf>
- Outdoor visitation guidance for long term care facilities
<https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/hcp/ltcoutdoor.pdf>

The State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC)

- The SEOC Health Care Resource Call Center is available for providers to access a special long term care line and receive prompts to reach information related to specific topics such as infection control, personal protective equipment (PPE), COVID-19 testing or licensing issues, as well as triage support in crisis management and finding a COVID-19 support site
<https://dps.mn.gov/divisions/hsem/seoc/Pages/default.aspx>

Missouri (MO)

Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program

- Provides guidance and links to the national Long Term Care Ombudsman Resource Center, fact sheets, Q&As, newsletters, and Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services communications regarding COVID-19 for long term care facilities, residents, and their families
<https://health.mo.gov/seniors/ombudsman/covid-19.php>

State Actions for COVID-19 Management and Response

8. Nursing Home (NH) Communications Continued

Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services (MDHSS)

- The MDHSS website provides a local, zip code-level map of positive cases as well as charts/graphs of COVID-19 cases and deaths by age, sex and race. A map of testing locations also is provided, with a hotline number and resources for the public
<https://www.stlcorona.com>

Missouri University School of Nursing – Quality Improvement Program for Missouri (QIPMO)

- QIPMO developed a “Back to Basics” handout that outlines visitation restrictions, hand washing, hydration, mobility, hygiene, and mental health
<https://nursinghomehelp.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/Back-to-the-Basics-with-QIPMO.pdf>
- QIPMO is hosting Nursing Home Administrator Support Group calls and Director of Nursing (DON) Support Group calls. These sessions help to keep administrators and DONs up to date regarding state and federal guidelines, updates and resources
<https://nursinghomehelp.org/educational/important-information-helpful-links-on-coronavirus-covid-19>

Montana (MT)

Association for Professionals in Infection Control and Epidemiology (APIC)

- Provides infection control tools and resources for providers via long term care email listserv and weekly conference calls in coordination with the Montana Department of Health and Human Services
- Communicable Disease Prevention and Control Bureau APIC Chapter, Pam Webb
pwebb@bresnan.net

State of Montana

- The State Emergency Coordination Center website provides COVID-19-related epidemiologic data and situational reports updated daily
<https://covid19.mt.gov>

Nevada (NV)

Nevada Division of Public and Behavioral Health

- Skilled nursing facilities and assisted living facilities were contacted to assess personal protective equipment (PPE) needs and prepared an inventory of facilities with PPE requests

New Jersey (NJ)

Deaf and Hard of Hearing COVID Communication Card

- Communication cards in English and Spanish are available that enable deaf or hard of hearing patients or care partners to communicate COVID-19-related symptoms and potentially related exposure
https://nj.gov/humanservices/documents/covid/Corona%20Virus%20Card%20-%20%20up-RB_v2.pdf
<https://nj.gov/humanservices/ddhh/assets/documents/DDHH%20CVcard-WEB-SP.pdf>

New Jersey Department of Health

- Provided daily COVID-19 updates, including COVID-19 cases by age and number of hospitalizations
https://www.nj.gov/health/cd/documents/topics/NCOV/COVID_Confirmed_Case_Summary.pdf

State Actions for COVID-19 Management and Response

8. Nursing Home (NH) Communications Continued

New Jersey Department of Health, Manatt Health

- Rapid assessment of New Jersey's COVID-19 response targeted toward the long term care system resulted in a set of actionable recommendations over the near-term (next four months) and intermediate to longer-term (5+ months) aimed at improving the quality, resilience and safety of the state's long term care delivery system now and for the future
https://d31hzlkh6di2h5.cloudfront.net/20200603/ca/d9/da/fc/201e7410ca8c06560498e758/Manatt_Recommendations_New_Jersey_LTC_Resilience_6-2-2020_final_2.pdf

New Jersey Department of Health (NJDOH), New Jersey Poison Control Center

- A COVID-19 hotline is staffed by health care providers to answer questions and address concerns. The Poison Control Center works closely with the NJDOH to stay up-to-date on new or changing information, if people think they have been exposed to COVID-19
<https://www.njpies.org/coronavirus>

Official Site of the State of New Jersey

- The COVID-19 HUB website provides a county-based data dashboard, COVID-19 frequently asked questions (FAQs), a jobs portal, symptom checks, and state based updates
<https://covid19.nj.gov>

New Mexico (NM)

New Mexico Ombudsman Program

- The long term care ombudsman communicates directly with residents and families of those who have died from or contracted COVID-19
- Town Halls are used to answer questions from the public and family members and educate on resident rights; family councils and their importance and impact; technology innovations; Create Connect; and the ombudsman program
- The ombudsman is setting up a process to track and analyze the use of tablets in long term care facilities
- A tiered approach to volunteering creates a fast track to increase volunteer capacity

New Mexico State Entities (Survey Agency, Health and Human Services, Aging and Long term Services, the Health Care Association)

- State entities hold weekly 30-minute calls to support communication between nursing homes, assisted living, and intermediate care facilities for intellectually/developmentally disabled individuals with immediate needs

State of New Mexico

- Hosts weekly calls with nursing homes, assisted living facilities, and skilled nursing facilities to identify gaps in knowledge, training, and personal protective equipment (PPE) issues, provide updates on the current state of operations, and address staff shortages and fears

New York (NY)

New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH)

- The COVID-19 Weekly Healthcare Provider Update provides New York State health care providers with a consolidated update of guidance released by the NYSDOH related to the COVID-19 pandemic response. The site shows only current guidance for any given topic and is updated

8. Nursing Home (NH) Communications Continued

to reflect new guidance

<https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/system/files/documents/2020/05/covid19-provider-update-compilation-5.18.20.1127a.pdf>

- Governor Cuomo announced the implementation of a new Early Warning Dashboard to monitor and review how the virus is being contained on an ongoing basis
<https://forward.ny.gov/early-warning-monitoring-dashboard>

North Dakota (ND)

Catholic Health Initiatives (CHI) St. Alexius Health - Garrison, ND

- Facility places contact time for cleaning and disinfecting products in large numbers on side of each bottle to keep that time more present in the mind of those using the products

Great Plains Quality Innovation Network (QIN)

- With so many meetings and trainings scheduled every day, it is a challenge for organizations to attend them all. Great Plains Quality Innovation Network (QIN) staff have been sharing their meeting notes from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) National COVID-19 Nursing Home Weekly Meeting via email to nursing home colleagues in North Dakota and South Dakota. Nursing home colleagues have been very appreciative of this action

North Dakota Health Information Exchange (HIE)

- Works with Department of Health to identify addresses for patients being tested to track disease spread where they live rather than where they sought health care; when there are positives, they can look at patient history to project what the disease manifestation might be
- Creates notifications to the state epidemiologist for positive tests to start contact tracing and to track hospital admissions and discharges (in development)
- Onboards providers to have the electronic medical record (EMR) connect to the state lab system
- Works with EMR vendors to add occupation and employer to the feed sent to the HIE to assist with contact tracing

North Dakota Office of the Governor Doug Burgum, North Dakota Department of Health, ProudCrowd

- The Care19 app was developed in North Dakota and stores the location of any place a person visits for 10 minutes or more. If an individual tests positive for COVID-19, it assists with contact tracing
<https://ndresponse.gov/covid-19-resources/care19>

North Dakota Reuniting Families & Residents Task Force/Committee

- Task force of North Dakota nursing home residents, staff, leadership, and family members working towards opening of visitation and social support for nursing home residents. Task force is led by Chris Larson, resident of Luther Memorial Home in Mayville, ND
<https://www.grandforksherald.com/newsmd/coronavirus/6497326-New-task-force-to-explore-safe-nursing-home-visitation-in-North-Dakota>
<https://www.kvrr.com/2020/05/27/live-long-term-care-center-task-force>

8. Nursing Home (NH) Communications Continued

The State of North Dakota Hospital Coordination and Vulnerable Population Protection Plan 2020

- **The COVID-19 Pandemic Response plan was drafted to ensure that hospitals and communities have resources to handle a potential surge of COVID-19 patients. The plan provides the framework for the State of North Dakota in collaboration with hospitals, long term care facilities, the North Dakota National Guard (NDNG), and other state and local agencies to serve the health care needs of citizens with COVID-19 that require hospitalization. A six-point plan identifies key actions that will guide the State, hospitals, and care facilities through a tiered system**

<https://ndresponse.gov/sites/www/files/documents/covid-19/Additional%20Resources/Hospitals%20and%20VP3%20FINAL.pdf>

Ohio (OH)

Ohio Department of Health

- COVID-19 education/resources are made available through a website. Selected topics include basic care guidelines, infection control/resident care posters, basic infection control guidelines, nursing home infection control preventionist training, and links to resources from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

<https://aging.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/aging/care-and-living/coronavirus-response#1566596-those-serving-older-ohioans>

Ohio Health Care Association

- The following steps are being implemented to ramp up COVID-19 testing of residents and staff of nursing homes to better prevent the spread of the disease among some of Ohio's most vulnerable residents

<https://www.ohca.org/docs/documents/5963/Testing%20in%20Nursing%20Homes%20Final%2005.26.2020.pdf>

- Statewide organization providing updates on most current and authoritative information on COVID-19 relevant to facilities in Ohio

https://www.ohca.org/covid19_1

Ohio Hospital Association (OHA)

- OHA is coordinating COVID-19 communications and protocols between state and federal agencies and Ohio's health care delivery network. OHA previously partnered with the Ohio Department of Health to develop a regional emergency preparedness network and to lead the Ohio Emerging Pathogen Coalition established specifically to coordinate response to pathogens new to Ohio

<https://ohiohospitals.org/Patient-Safety-Quality/Innovation-Leadership/COVID-19-Emerging-Pathogens>

- OHA provides COVID-19 education and resources on selected topics, including basic care and infection control guidelines, infection control/resident care posters, nursing home infection control preventionist training, and links to resources from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

<https://aging.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/aging/care-and-living>

Office of the Governor Mike DeWine

- The Governor, Lieutenant Governor, agency directors, and other state leaders provide updates on COVID-19 in Ohio during near-daily press conferences

State Actions for COVID-19 Management and Response

8. Nursing Home (NH) Communications Continued

- In March, Ohio launched a COVID-19 Hotline to address questions from Ohio citizens, providers, and others in the medical community

Oklahoma (OK)

Oklahoma State Department of Health

- A COVID-19 website was created for additional notifications and resources, including 77 swab-pods set-up around the state
<https://coronavirus.health.ok.gov>

Oregon (OR)

Oregon Office of Oversight and Quality

- The Oregon Office of Oversight and Quality (the state survey agency) wrote a letter to health care providers to express appreciation and share results of its technical assistance review. The survey agency also partnered with the health care authority to provide supportive, non-punitive messaging to providers
<https://www.oregon.gov/oha/PH/DISEASES/CONDITIONS/DISEASESAZ/Pages/COVID-19.aspx>

The State of Oregon

- Developed a media campaign to support health care workers under the tag: #ORHealthcareHeroes

Pennsylvania (PA)

Pennsylvania Department of Aging, Office of State Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program

- Family and friends who are unable to see loved ones living in long term care facilities because of the COVID-19 emergency may struggle with changes in protocol, rights, and policies. The Pennsylvania Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program is available to help with a new statewide resource called Virtual Family Council. The program offers weekly online meetings with a local ombudsman and a team of 10 local experts. Anyone can participate and ask questions, share concerns, or just listen to learn and gather information. The meetings will not only provide an opportunity for dialogue and networking, but updates to resources and policies will be provided as well. The meetings will not address specific issues regarding a resident or a facility
<https://www.aging.pa.gov/organization/advocacy-and-protection/Pages/Ombudsman.aspx>

PHCA-Pennsylvania Health Care Association

- Developed a recommended long term care facilities preparedness assessment for COVID-19 in checklist format for communication
<https://www.phca.org/covid19>

South Dakota (SD)

Avera Prince of Peace Retirement Community

- Avera Prince of Peace Retirement Community created a visitation booth that separates residents from their visitors by a piece of plexiglass. Family members can contact the nursing home to reserve a time for the booth
<https://www.dakotanewsnow.com/content/news/Avera-Prince-of-Peace-Retirement-Community-opens-visitation-booth-571012061.html>

Great Plains Quality Innovation Network (QIN)

State Actions for COVID-19 Management and Response

8. Nursing Home (NH) Communications Continued

- With so many meetings and trainings scheduled every day, it is a challenge for organizations to attend them all. Great Plains QIN staff have been sharing their meeting notes from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) National COVID-19 Nursing Home Weekly Meeting via email to nursing home colleagues in North Dakota and South Dakota. Nursing home colleagues have been very appreciative of this action

South Dakota Department of Health

- The Care19 app (developed in North Dakota) helps users log and categorize locations they had visited for at least 10 minutes, assists in contact tracing, and is a tool to stay informed on potential exposure
<https://covid.sd.gov/care19app.aspx>

Tieszan Memorial Home

- Tieszan Memorial Home used its social media page to inform community and resident's families about COVID 19 mass testing. The intent was for families and residents' representatives to have an opportunity to read the information prior to the personal call to obtain consent for the testing. This provided time for representatives to gather any questions they might have, ultimately contributing to a quicker process in obtaining consents

Texas (TX)

Office of the Governor Greg Abbott

- The Governor's Report to Open Texas includes a recommendation that nursing facilities immediately inform all those who have interacted with residents of facilities with positive patients to further limit the spread of the virus
<https://gov.texas.gov/uploads/files/organization/opentexas/OpenTexas-Report.pdf>

Texas Health and Human Services Commission

- The Texas Health and Human Services Commission sends communications to its regulated nursing homes through surveyor staff. State and regional levels speak with the nursing facilities in their regions daily
- The Texas Health and Human Services Commission Regulatory Services hosts biweekly calls with long term care provider associations to communicate policy changes and answer questions
- The agency has also produced over 100 guidance communications to providers, including letters, webinars, alerts, emergency rules, and temporary suspensions of regulatory requirements to give providers flexibility in responding to COVID-19

Vermont (VT)

Vermont Department of Health

- The Department is proactively contacting all long term care facilities, nursing homes, assisted living facilities, and senior housing facilities to review strategies to prevent COVID-19 infection and to develop plans to respond immediately if an infection is identified
- If a case of COVID-19 is associated with a long term care facility, an epidemiology team is quickly activated. The team contacts the facility to provide recommendations and infection control support and begins contact tracing to determine the source of the infection and how it may be spreading
- The team contacts the facility to provide recommendations and infection control support and begins contact tracing to determine the source of the infection and how it may be spreading

8. Nursing Home (NH) Communications Continued

<https://www.healthvermont.gov/response/coronavirus-covid-19/long-term-care-and-group-living-settings>

West Virginia (WV)

- Office of Health Facilities and Licensure (OHFLAC)
The Nursing Home and Assisted Living Residences Reopening Plan Frequently Asked Questions document released on June 15, 2020 contains information about the reopening plan for nursing homes and assisted living residences
<https://files.constantcontact.com/f9656c64601/83862bd7-4345-4df3-89e3-31cf32512295.pdf>
- Governor Jim Justice announced that beginning on June 17, 2020, visitation at nursing homes may resume at facilities that have had no cases of COVID-19 for the 14 consecutive day period immediately preceding June 17, 2020 (i.e., since June 3, 2020), provided that specific general framework is followed by qualifying facilities. For facilities that will not qualify to open on June 17, 2020, such facilities may resume visitation upon achieving 14 consecutive days with no COVID-19 cases at such facilities, provided that the specified general framework outlined in the reopening plan is followed
<https://dhhr.wv.gov/COVID-19/Documents/Nursing-Home-COVID19-Reopening-Plan-June-2020.pdf>

Wisconsin (WI)

LeadingAge Wisconsin

- The organization created a template that facilities can use to inform stakeholders about stay-at-home policies
<http://www.leadingagewi.org/members-subscribers/coronavirus-covid-19-information-resources>

9. PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT (PPE): ACTIONS TO IMPROVE ACCESS TO PPE

Alabama (AL)

Office of the Lieutenant Governor Will Ainsworth, Business Council of Alabama, Chamber of Commerce Association of Alabama, AlabamaWorks!, Chamber of Commerce of West Alabama, Dothan Area Chamber of Commerce, Southeast AlabamaWorks!, West AlabamaWorks!

- Alabama has created an online personal protective equipment (PPE), employment, and material resource guide for providers to find available supplies, disinfectants, PPE, employer/employee guidance, and more external pertinent links
<https://tuscaloosachamber.com/business-toolkit>

Arizona (AZ)

Pioneer Health Group

- To increase the supply of personal protective equipment (PPE) at the nursing home level, visit hardware stores, which have large supplies of PPE (coveralls to supplement gowns, eye protection, face shields, shoe covers, masks, and gloves)

Arkansas (AR)

Walmart Foundation

- On March 21, 2020, the Walmart Foundation announced a \$5 million grant to the COVID-19 Solidarity Response Fund, a program set up to support the World Health Organization (WHO). In part, the fund will enable WHO to send essential supplies, such as personal protective equipment (PPE) to front line health workers

California (CA)

California Association of Health Facilities (CAHF)

- CAHF developed the “Just-In-Time Respiratory Protection Program” to assist nursing homes in responding to events or situations, such as COVID-19, that will require them to implement a program for the respiratory protection of their employees. The nine-page guide contains a step-by-step process to get nursing homes prepared to set up and implement a plan to protect their employees, including a Fit-Test video to help prepare staff to use personal protective equipment (PPE)
<https://www.cahf.org/Portals/29/DisasterPreparedness/pandemic/JustInTimeRespProtProgram.pdf>

Colorado (CO)

Department of Health Care Policy and Financing (HCPF)

- Prioritized facilities for personal protective equipment and testing distribution
<https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/hcpf/COVID>

Connecticut (CT)

Battelle Critical Care Decontamination System (CCDS)[™]

- Performed decontamination of the novel coronavirus (SARS-CoV-2) to address personal protective equipment (PPE) shortage (cleans up to 80,000 units/day)
- Offered free to health care personnel

State Actions for COVID-19 Management and Response

9. Personal Protective Equipment (PPE): Actions to Improve Access to PPE Continued

- Provided in eight locations
<https://www.battelle.org/inb/battelle-ccds-for-covid19-satellite-locations>

District of Columbia (D.C.)

Office of the Mayor Muriel Bowser

- Provided guidelines on universal masking and use of face coverings for residents, health care workers, staff, and visitors in long term care facilities
https://dchealth.dc.gov/sites/default/files/dc/sites/doh/publication/attachments/DC_Health_COVID-19_LTCF_Coverings_and_Masks_2020.04.14.pdf

Delaware (DE)

The Delaware Collaboration with Community Volunteers Ombudsman Office Collaboration

- Volunteers called “Help for Healthcare Delaware” made masks for all non-clinical staff, generating 20,000 masks for all facilities

Florida (FL)

Florida Health Care Association (FHCA)

- Conducted a personal protective equipment (PPE) train-the-trainer webinar on April 8, 2020
https://www.fhca.org/facility_operations/coronavirus

Florida Division of Emergency Management (FDEM)

- The Division made another major push for personal protective equipment (PPE) to support health care workers in long term care facilities. This includes 4 million masks, 200,000 face shields, and 500,000 gloves
<https://floridadisaster.org/covid19>

Orlando Health System

- Orlando Health System implemented “COVID Safety Officers (CSOs)” in all its facilities. This health system includes acute care, two long term care facilities and physician practices. Every shift, a designated staff person is the CSO tasked to observe employees donning and doffing personal protective equipment (PPE), performing appropriate hand hygiene, and assuring that all other infection control and prevention policies and procedures are being followed. This has provided a level of reassurance to the long term care facilities in the greater Orlando area when accepting transfers from acute care from this health system

Georgia (GA)

Georgia Health Care Association (GHCA)

- The GHCA emergency preparedness leader has been in constant contact with the Georgia Emergency Preparedness Command Center and stands ready to assist with all facets of needs from personal protective equipment (PPE) to all other equipment needed
<https://www.ghca.info>

Idaho (ID)

Idaho Health Care Association, Idaho Department of Health (IDOH)

- IDOH has taken the lead in coordination between Idaho nursing homes and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for distribution of personal protective equipment (PPE) supplies

Illinois (IL)

Health Care Council of Illinois (HCCI)

- Developed COVID-19 Resource page, updated daily with information regarding state and federal regulations, infection control, personal protective equipment (PPE), and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) information
<http://www.hccil.org/covid-19>

Office of the Governor J.B. Pritzker Task Force

- Illinois Governor J.B. Pritzker issued a Gubernatorial Disaster Proclamation in response to the ongoing COVID-19 situation to assist Illinois agencies in coordinating state and federal resources, including the Strategic National Stockpile of medicines and protective equipment, to support local governments in preparation for any action that may be necessary related to the potential impact of COVID-19
<https://www2.illinois.gov/sites/gov/Documents/APPROVED%20-%20Coronavirus%20Disaster%20Proc%20WORD.pdf>
- The Governor provides a COVID-19 update briefing daily
- Drive-through testing sites are available throughout the state; all health care workers and residents with symptoms are eligible for testing
<https://www2.illinois.gov/sites/gov/COVID-19/Pages/default.aspx>

Indiana (IN)

Indiana State Department of Health (ISDH)

- An ISDH waiver issued guidance for creating COVID-19 long term care facilities:
 - Waiving facility staffing requirements
 - Enhancing reimbursement rates for COVID-19 facilities by 50 percent
 - Providing liability protection
 - Giving data support to help hospitals identify post-acute COVID-19 facilities for transfer
 - Providing infection control teams to train facilities on COVID-19 testing
 - Provisions all necessary personal protective equipment (PPE) as a “priority” facility, similar to hospitalshttps://www.coronavirus.in.gov/files/IN_COVID-19%20State%20Requirements%20and%20Guidance%20for%20COVID%20dedicated%20faciliti....pdf
- Indiana has prioritized long term care facilities for the distribution of PPE. As part of this, all long term care facilities report their daily PPE stores in our EMResource database. When data shows that facilities have decreased supplies of PPE, local health departments will deliver PPE directly to the facility. If local health departments have limited supplies, ISDH will deliver PPE from its stores directly to the facility. From the time of the emergency declaration, ISDH has been able to respond to every PPE request from long term care facilities
https://www.coronavirus.in.gov/files/IN_COVID-19_LTC_PPE_Request_Guidance_04.17.20.pdf

Iowa (IA)

Iowa Department of Public Health

- Provides support through emergency response team available (for example, personal protective equipment [PPE] supply)
<https://idph.iowa.gov/Emerging-Health-Issues/Novel-Coronavirus/Long-Term-Care>

9. Personal Protective Equipment (PPE): Actions to Improve Access to PPE Continued

Louisiana (LA)

Louisiana Department of Health (LDH)

- Assembled the LDH Nursing Home Facility Toolkit for nursing home support. This toolkit provides state and best practice guidance for personal protective equipment (PPE), information about an option for safely sanitizing N95 masks for re-use, staffing resources, and testing recommendations, along with a variety of pertinent contact numbers
http://ldh.la.gov/assets/medicaid/hss/docs/Coronavirus_2019/LDH_NH_Facility_Toolkit.pdf
- Created a PPE State Supply Hotline at 225-325-5900 so nursing homes can be informed as supplies become available. This phone line is available seven days a week from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM Central Time
<http://ldh.la.gov/index.cfm/page/3884>

Maine (ME)

Maine Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS)

- MDHHS boosted payments to congregate care facilities in response to COVID-19 through an Extraordinary Circumstance Allowance
- MaineCare will pay extra costs associated with COVID-19, including staffing, supplies, and personal protective equipment, with \$10.1 million in state and federal funds to support facilities
<https://www.maine.gov/governor/mills/news/mills-administration-takes-steps-support-nursing-homes-response-covid-19-2020-03-26>

Maine Health Care Association

- Statewide Think Tank Friday meeting
 - Small group of corporate leaders in partnership with the Maine Health Care Association collaborated on sharing “vetted” vendors as they looked to procure PPE for their facilities
https://www.mehca.org/files/QualityRegs/MHCA_PPE%20SUPPLIERS_051520.pdf

Minnesota (MN)

Minnesota Department of Health, Regional Health Care Preparedness Coordinators

- Nursing homes communicate personal protective equipment (PPE) shortages or supply chain issues to Minnesota Department of Health Regional Health Care Preparedness Coordinators (RHPC)

Mississippi (MS)

Mississippi State Department of Health (MSDH) Epidemiology Department

- Partner with MSDH Licensure and Certification with frequent contact
- Provide consultation to prevent the spread of COVID-19 in nursing homes
- Assist with personal protective equipment (PPE) attainment
- Provide daily follow-up to nursing homes that have COVID-19 cases
- Partner with Mississippi Emergency Management Agency (MEMA)
- Nursing homes are to request PPE from their county Emergency Management Agency (EMA) contact
<https://www.msema.org/county-ema>

State Actions for COVID-19 Management and Response

9. Personal Protective Equipment (PPE): Actions to Improve Access to PPE Continued

Missouri (MO)

State Emergency Management Agency (SEMA)

- Nursing homes experiencing a shortage of personal protective equipment (PPE) can contact SEMA to obtain immediate short term PPE supplies

New Jersey (NJ)

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)

- By the beginning of July 2020, each facility will receive two separate packages containing a seven-day supply of eye protection, surgical masks, gowns, and gloves. Each package will be individualized for each nursing home based upon their level of staffing. Items are blue tarp material
<https://www.fema.gov/news-release/2020/04/30/personal-protective-equipment-medicare-and-medicaid-nursing-homes>

New Mexico (NM)

State of New Mexico

- Personal protective equipment (PPE) reporting portal established to monitor PPE levels statewide pursuant to Executive Order
- Nursing homes are to request PPE from their county Emergency Manager; working in conjunction with the Department of Homeland Security, critical PPE is delivered to the point of request

North Dakota (ND)

North Dakota Information Technology, EduTech, Gateway to Science, Microsoft Corporation

- A North Dakota Statewide personal protective equipment (PPE) portal helps distribute PPE across the state. Individuals and organizations with 3D printers, laser cutters, and Computer Numerical Control (CNC) machines can register on the PPE portal to help produce face shields or other high-tech solutions to COVID-19. Requests for PPE will be matched with producers close by to deliver products efficiently. Donations, including materials, are used to help cover the cost of supplies
<https://ndresponse.gov/news/statewide-coalition-launches-personal-protective-equipment-portal-connect-needs-resources>

University of North Dakota Medical School, North Dakota State University (NDSU), Grand Forks County, and SkySkopes

- A collaboration with NDSU and Grand Forks County is testing drones to deliver medical supplies, check people's temperatures from the air, and sanitize playground equipment
<https://www.usnews.com/news/best-states/north-dakota/articles/2020-04-21/drone-company-testing-equipment-to-fight-covid-19>

Ohio (OH)

Ohio Department of Health, Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities

- A Pre-Surge Planning Toolkit for Providers of Long Term Services and Supports (LTSS) includes concept diagrams and tools related to COVID-19; provides resources to support evaluation and re-evaluation of needs and capacity to address future quarantines of people who have been exposed; offers guidelines for isolation of people who are tested or presumed positive; and assists with planning for critical shortages of personal protective equipment (PPE)

State Actions for COVID-19 Management and Response

9. Personal Protective Equipment (PPE): Actions to Improve Access to PPE Continued

<https://dodd.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/dodd/providers/all-provider-resources/resource-its-pre-surge-planning-toolkit>

- Resource provides guidance on masks or face coverings in the workplace and COVID-19 frequently asked questions
<https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/covid-19/resources/general-resources/cloth-masks-or-face-coverings-in-the-workplace>

State Medical Board of Ohio, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

- Shared CDC website including information on eye protection, isolation gowns, gloves, face masks, N95 respirators, powered air purifying respirators, elastomeric respirators, and ventilators
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/ppe-strategy/index.html>

Oklahoma (OK)

Oklahoma State Department of Health (OSDH)

- The OSDH COVID-19 website was created for additional notifications and resources, including a personal protective equipment (PPE) survey and the ability to compile and submit PPE burn rate data

Oklahoma State Ombudsman

- Coordinates and delivers personal protective equipment (PPE) to long term care facilities
<http://www.okdhs.org/services/aging/Pages/ombudsman.aspx>

Pennsylvania (PA)

Office of the Governor Tom Wolf

- On May 6, 2020, Governor Wolf announced a program to provide free N95 respirator decontamination for long term care providers experiencing a shortage of respirators due to limited availability of personal protective equipment
- The Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency (PEMA) is collaborating with Battelle Memorial Institute to deploy a decontamination unit in southeast Pennsylvania that has the capacity to sterilize up to 80,000 N95 respirators per day
- An eligible organization that wishes to use the system for N95 decontamination must register and enter into a use agreement with Battelle, at which time they will receive additional guidance regarding the types of N95s that are allowed and instructions for shipping and delivery
- The service is available free of charge for use by eligible organizations. The federal government is absorbing 100 percent of the cost. The only cost to an eligible organization is for shipping to and from the site
<https://www.governor.pa.gov/newsroom/gov-wolf-free-n95-decontamination-system-for-healthcare-facilities-first-responders-now-available>

Pennsylvania Health Care Association (PHCA)

- PHCA developed a recommended long term care facilities preparedness assessment for COVID-19 in checklist format to track availability of personal protective equipment (PPE) and other supplies
<https://www.phca.org/covid19>

9. Personal Protective Equipment (PPE): Actions to Improve Access to PPE Continued

South Carolina (SC)

South Carolina COVID-19 Emergency Supply Collaborative

- The state established a collaborative between federal, state, and local South Carolina governments and organizations that connects South Carolina health care providers with sources for clinical care equipment, clothing and protection, disinfectants, eyewear and masks, gloves, and hazardous waste handling
<https://sccovid19.org/#criticalneeds>

South Dakota (SD)

Sanford Health

- Provided instructions on how to sew a face mask, how to make a no-sew face mask, and how to wear a face mask. Volunteers were asked to sew masks for health care personnel
<https://news.sanfordhealth.org/coronavirus-disease-2019-covid-19/how-to-make-face-masks>

Tennessee (TN)

Tennessee Health Care Association (THCA)

- Developed COVID-19 resources for consumers
- Created guidance for facilities facing personal protective equipment (PPE) shortage
- Developed a PPE request form
<https://www.thca.org/for-consumers/resource-center>
- Posted a toolkit for facility visitor screening
<https://www.thca.org/files/2020/03/FHCA-COVID-19-Visitor-Screening-Toolkit.pdf>

COVID-19 Staffing Project

- Volunteers created a website to help hospitals and nursing facilities of all sizes anticipate their staffing and personal protective equipment (PPE) needs for the COVID-19 surge
<https://www.covidstaffing.org>
- Modules included:
 - COVID-19 Staffing Needs Calculator: Calculated staffing needs by clinical role as inpatient census increased
<https://www.covidstaffing.org/modules/staffing-needs>
 - COVID Response Planner: Planned a phased staffing response to COVID-19, based on available beds, staff, and locations
<https://www.covidstaffing.org/modules/response-planner>
 - PPE Needs Calculator: Calculated PPE needs as inpatient census increased
<https://www.covidstaffing.org/modules/daily-ppe-calculator>
 - Staff Skills Surveys: Determined staff skills specific to COVID-19 patient care needs
<https://www.covidstaffing.org/modules/supply>
 - Role Allocation Toolkits: Based on staff and trainee skills, assessed COVID-19 patient care roles where staff members could re-deploy
<https://www.covidstaffing.org/modules/supply>

Hamilton County

- Task force meets weekly with nursing homes and assisted living facilities to help them obtain personal protective equipment (PPE) and testing for COVID-19 and antibodies. All Hamilton County hospitals are part of the task force
<http://www.hamiltontn.gov>

9. Personal Protective Equipment (PPE): Actions to Improve Access to PPE Continued

Mid-South Emergency Planning Coalition

- Works with the Memphis Task Force for Skilled Nursing and Assisted Living to obtain personal protective equipment (PPE)
- Developed a request form for skilled nursing facilities to request PPE and posted drive-through testing locations
<http://www.midsouthepc.org>

The Middle Tennessee Regional Healthcare Quality Improvement Collaborative Communication Coalition

- The Middle Tennessee Regional Healthcare Quality Improvement Collaborative Communication Coalition, a coalition working with Alliant Health Services, formed a task force that meets every other Thursday with representation from multiple counties in the Nashville area. Nursing homes assisted living centers, the Mayor's office, and the Tennessee Department of Health are represented. They are working together to coordinate personal protective equipment, testing, and National Healthcare Safety Network needs, such as assistance needed for enrollment and/or reporting in the COVID-19 module. Providers in the area network to invite other providers. A Senior Quality Advisor at AHS, Julie Clark, julie.clark@allianthealth.org, is available to assist on connection with this coalition

Texas (TX)

Office of the Governor Greg Abbott

- On March 22, 2020, the Governor created the Supply Chain Strike Force to actively acquire personal protective equipment (PPE) supplies and initiate production of PPE. This includes a partnership between the Texas Military Department and Ameritech, which has led to the production and distribution of thousands of masks and PPE supplies to Texas facilities. Throughout the COVID-19 response, nursing facilities with outbreaks have been a prioritized group to receive PPE from the state
<https://gov.texas.gov/news/post/governor-abbott-issues-executive-order-increasing-hospital-capacity-announces-supply-chain-strike-force-for-covid-19-response>

Washington (WA)

Washington State Entities

- Established the Washington State COVID-19 Health System Response Management Team, appointed by the Office of the Governor Jay Inslee, to coordinate and optimize health care resources
- Implemented a centralized state-wide process to request emergency restocking of personal protective equipment (PPE) and volunteer health care staff to address staffing shortages
http://www.wsha.org/wp-content/uploads/WSHA-Presentation-Adm.-Raquel-Bono_May-4-2020.pdf

Wisconsin (WI)

Wisconsin Health Care Association

- Provides daily COVID-19 updates for members and business partners with a focus on acquiring personal protective equipment (PPE)
<https://www.whcawical.org>

10. PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT (PPE): ACTIONS TO IMPROVE UTILIZATION OF PPE

Arkansas (AR)

Arkansas Health Care Association (AHCA), Arkansas Department of Health (ADH)

- AHCA had ADH's health care-associated infections preventionist and infectious disease physician present on findings from their COVID-19 visits and answer questions
- The virtual event was open to all nursing homes and assisted living facilities
- Arkansas Department of Human Services Office of Long Term Care were also present

California (CA)

California Department of Public Health All Facilities Letters (AFL)

- Provides resources for skilled nursing facilities (SNFs) on preparing for COVID-19 and a toolkit for management of exposures and recognized cases in SNFs
- The Assessment of California SNFs to Receive Patients with Confirmed COVID-19 provides guidance for SNFs planning to designate a specific wing/unit to care for residents with suspected or confirmed COVID-19

<https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CHCQ/LCP/CDPH%20Document%20Library/AFL-20-25-Attachment-05-SNF-Assessment-Checklist.pdf>

Delaware (DE)

Delaware Health Care Facilities Association (DHCFA)

- Gowns are in such short supply and are being made from old shirts and bedsheets
- Volunteers called "Help for Healthcare Delaware" made masks for all non-clinical staff, generating 20,000 masks for all facilities
- Organizations took out a credit line to bulk purchase personal protective equipment (PPE), which was distributed among the facilities

<https://www.dhcfa.org>

Florida (FL)

Florida Health Care Association (FHCA)

- Conducted a personal protective equipment (PPE) train-the-trainer webinar on April 8, 2020

Hawaii (HI)

Office of the Governor David Ige

- Provided a COVID-19 Project ECHO education and training series, with weekly sessions for all long term care and assisted living facilities. The series topics included: donning/doffing personal protective equipment (PPE), repurposing PPE, COVID-19 testing procedures, resident isolation and staff quarantine, and telemedicine in long term care

<https://geriatrics.jabsom.hawaii.edu/geriatrics>

<https://geriatrics.jabsom.hawaii.edu/ltss>

Iowa (IA)

Meyer Pharmacy

- Meyer Pharmacy has a respiratory therapist on staff and is performing mask fit training for local nursing home staff

10. Personal Protective Equipment (PPE): Actions to Improve Utilization of PPE Continued

<https://meyerpharmacy.com/pharmacy/covid-19>

Maine (ME)

Maine Health Care Association

- Guidance was created by the Maine Health Care Association on optimizing personal protective equipment (PPE) during a crisis
<https://www.mehca.org/files/QualityRegs/MHCA-Optimizing-PPE-During-Crisis-Levels.pdf>

Maryland (MD)

University of Maryland Medical System

- Conserve Personal Protective Equipment (PPE): Informative video covers PPE conservation, proper ways to re-use specific types of masks, and how to correctly remove PPE
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l6JqZyu9du4>

Missouri (MO)

St. Louis County Department of Public Health

- Established a High-Risk Task Force Team composed of volunteer doctors and registered nurses. Team members serve as liaisons between long term care facilities and the Department of Public Health. Working remotely, team members answer questions, meet informational needs, and monitor each facility's supply of personal protective equipment (PPE). In some cases, the task force has worked with the St. Louis County Police Office of Emergency Management to provide PPE to facilities that lack adequate supplies
<http://mura.stlouisco.com/news/dph-covid-19-update-4232020>

Nebraska (NE)

Infection Control Assessment and Promotion (ICAP) Program, Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services

- Provided guidance on personal protective equipment (PPE) and zoning for long term care facilities related to COVID-19
<https://icap.nebraskamed.com/wp-content/uploads/sites/2/2020/04/PPE-use-when-a-LTCF-has-a-COVID-19-infection-ICAP-guidance-4.16.2020.pdf>

New Jersey (NJ)

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

- Shared resource guide with COVID-19 recommendations, including clarification that cloth face coverings are not considered personal protective equipment (PPE) because their capability to protect health care personnel (HCP) is unknown
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/long-term-care.html>

Sanford Health

- Provided instructions on how to sew a face mask, how to make a no-sew face mask, and how to wear a face mask. Volunteers were asked to sew masks for health care personnel
<https://news.sanfordhealth.org/coronavirus-disease-2019-covid-19/how-to-make-face-masks>

Ohio (OH)

Office of the Governor Mike DeWine

- Ohio Governor Mike DeWine and Lt. Governor Jon Husted were appreciative of the U.S. Food

State Actions for COVID-19 Management and Response

10. Personal Protective Equipment (PPE): Actions to Improve Utilization of PPE Continued

and Drug Administration's (FDA's) approval of the Battelle Critical Care Decontamination System (CCDS)[™], which is being used to perform decontamination of the novel coronavirus (SARS-CoV-2) to address personal protective equipment (PPE) shortage (cleans up to 80,000 units/day) in Columbus, Ohio

<https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/covid-19/resources/news-releases-news-you-can-use/Governor-DeWine-Lt-Governor-Husted-Thank-FDA-for-Approval-Use-Battelle-Technology>

State Medical Board of Ohio, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

- Shared information on the process to safely put on (don) and take off (doff) personal protective equipment (PPE) recommended for health care personnel caring for patients with COVID-19
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/using-ppe.html>

Ohio Department of Health, Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities

- Pre-Surge Planning Toolkit for Providers of Long Term Services and Supports (LTSS): Resource with strategies on assistance with planning for critical shortages of personal protective equipment (PPE)
<https://dodd.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/dodd/providers/all-provider-resources/resource-ltss-pre-surge-planning-toolkit>

Oklahoma (OK)

Oklahoma State Department of Health (OSDH)

- The OSDH COVID-19 website was created for additional notifications and resources, including information on county task forces to assist nursing homes with testing, delivery, and identification of personal protective equipment (PPE) needs

Texas (TX)

Texas Health and Human Services Commission Regulatory Services

- The Texas Health and Human Services Commission Regulatory Services and the Strike Force are trained to teach staff at facilities the “donning and doffing” of personal protective equipment (PPE)
- The Texas Health and Human Services Commission is also offering webinars on best-practices of PPE use in infection control

West Virginia (WV)

West Virginia Department of Health and Human Services, Bureau of Public Health

- COVID-19 website includes homeless service providers and home care resources, such as home care and self-isolation guidance for people with suspected or confirmed COVID-19 and guidance on cleaning when caring for ill person in the home
<https://dhhr.wv.gov/COVID-19/Pages/default.aspx>

11. HOUSING AND SHELTERING

California (CA)

The County of San Luis Obispo, in partnership with Cal Poly San Luis Obispo, Dignity Health, and Tenet Healthcare

- Opened its Alternate Care Site located at Cal Poly San Luis Obispo's Recreation Center. This site will help relieve local hospitals and nursing homes by housing patients with needs between home care and hospitalization
<https://www.emergencyslo.org/en/alternate-care-site.aspx>

Connecticut (CT)

Athena Health Care Systems

- Operates four designated COVID-19 recovery centers to accept COVID-19 patients who no longer require acute care but are still impacted by the infection – paid \$600 per patient per day
<https://portal.ct.gov/Office-of-the-Governor/News/Press-Releases/2020/04-2020/Governor-Lamont-Coronavirus-Update-April-11>

Iowa (IA)

Iowa Long Term Care Ombudsman

- Provides individual nursing home support for advocacy of needs at resident level
- Supports residents and families with concerns
- Encourages nursing homes to reach out to the Quality Improvement Organization, the Department of Inspections and Appeals (DIA), and the Iowa Department of Public Health (IDPH) for support
- Website houses multiple resources
<https://www.iowaaging.gov/educational-resources/covid-19-older-iowans>

Maryland (MD)

Chesapeake Regional Information System for our Patients (CRISP) Health Information Exchange Daily Bed Reporting

- This new daily CRISP bed reporting survey provides key pieces of skilled nursing facility availability information
- The Post-Acute Capacity form has been relocated to the CRISP Unified Landing Page (ULP) at <https://ulp.crisphealth.org>
- Simply log in using your existing CRISP credentials, then click the "Post Acute Capacity" tab at the top of the screen to enter your facility's information as usual. For a refresher on submitting your facility's information through the Post-Acute Capacity form
<https://crisphealth.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/COVID-19-Post-Acute-Capacity-Tracking-and-Reporting-Guide-1.pdf>
- If you do not have access to the CRISP Unified Landing Page, please contact the CRISP Customer Care Team and request access to "Post Acute Capacity." Call 1-877-952-7477 or email support@crisphealth.org

Michigan (MI)

State Actions for COVID-19 Management and Response

11. Housing and Sheltering Continued

Michigan Office of the Governor Gretchen Whitmer

- COVID-19 Regional Hubs are dedicated to treating COVID-19-affected individuals from congregate care settings who do not require hospital-level care. The Hubs will be designated by the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services and announced as they are established
- Facilities across the state are being considered for this model based on willingness to serve as a hub facility, capacity to contribute to local need for services, proximity to acute care facilities experiencing high COVID-19-related demand, ability to effectively quarantine COVID-19-affected residents, and performance history of the facility
- COVID-19 Regional Hubs will be required to complete daily enhanced reporting to the department

https://www.michigan.gov/coronavirus/0,9753,7-406-98163_98173-526911,00.html

Mississippi (MS)

Mississippi State Department of Health, Mississippi Emergency Management Agency

- The COVID-19 System of Care helps arrange for COVID-19 convalescence for patients being discharged from a hospital before being readmitted to a nursing home
- For more information, contact David Hall, Bureau Chief for the Acute Care Systems – Mississippi State Department of Health at 601-933-2440

https://msdh.ms.gov/msdhsite/_static/44,22004,397,881.html

Nebraska (NE)

Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS)

- Temporary housing for health care workers, emergency medical services, and law enforcement personnel is provided to mitigate the potential of COVID-19 exposure to their loved ones when they return home after shifts worked. The goal of this program is to reduce spread and exposure to families of health care workers and first responders while they continue to work their assigned shifts

<http://dhhs.ne.gov/Documents/COVID-19-FirstRespondersAccommodationRequest-FAQ.pdf>

Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), University of Nebraska, Nebraska National Guard

- Temporary lodging and accommodations are available to Nebraskans exposed to COVID-19 and in need of a quarantine/isolation location outside of their usual residence due to a high-risk household member

<http://dhhs.ne.gov/Pages/Pilot-Program-for-COVID-19-Housing-Accommodation-Expands.aspx>

Nevada (NV)

Nursing Homes

- Larger, urban nursing homes are creating COVID-19 units at COVID-19-naïve facilities

New Jersey (NJ)

Housing and Community Development Network of New Jersey

- Received funding from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to house COVID-19-positive individuals and families who required isolation using hotels, motels and dormitories. The five-category criteria includes:
 - Homeless individuals and families who live in congregate shelters who are symptomatic or tested positive for COVID-19
 - Homeless individuals who require quarantine or isolation due to being symptomatic or

State Actions for COVID-19 Management and Response

11. Housing and Sheltering Continued

- having a positive test for COVID-19
 - Children and adults living in congregate living settings who have tested positive for COVID-19
 - First responders and health care workers who do not require hospitalization but nevertheless need to avoid direct contact with their families due to exposure to COVID-19
 - Other groups that may need assistance as the State continues to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic, such as COVID-19 positive patients who do not require hospitalization in a traditional setting, but nevertheless require quarantine and isolation outside their residence to prevent the further spread of the virus
- <https://www.hcdnnj.org/coronavirusresources#homeless>

New Jersey Department of Health

- Funding for 21 counties has been allocated to support home delivered meals and other food to boost senior nutrition for older New Jersey residents during the COVID-19 pandemic
- <https://www.state.nj.us/humanservices/news/pressreleases/2020/approved/20200501.html>

Office of the Governor Phil Murphy

- The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has approved New Jersey's request to use emergency, non-congregate sheltering for individuals impacted by COVID-19 that do not have the means or ability to isolate themselves
- <https://www.nj.gov/governor/news/news/562020/20200411a.shtml>

New Mexico (NM)

Nursing Homes

- Larger nursing home corporations have instituted COVID-19-specific facilities

New York (NY)

Coalition for the Homeless

- The Coalition has developed COVID-19 guidance material for shelters. The guidance material, all of which are available for viewing, download, and use, includes:
 - Best practices for shelters
 - Isolation procedures and guidance
 - Face mask guidance
 - Isolation discharge criteria
 - COVID-19 overview and testing form
 - Shelter provider COVID-19 FAQs document
- <https://www.coalitionforthehomeless.org/covid-19>

Women In Need NYC (WINNYC: Provider of shelter services in New York City)

- New housing recovery and stability plan due to COVID-19 crisis called "The Aftermath Plan":
 - Established a new Stay-at-Home Emergency Rental Assistance Voucher to help low-income renters stay in their homes
 - Created New York City Rapid Rehousing to help families avoid shelter by providing temporary accommodations (30 to 60 days) in apartment-style student housing and hotels and an enhanced rental assistance voucher to help families quickly find a new home
 - Converted vacant hotels to family shelters and provide social services

State Actions for COVID-19 Management and Response

11. Housing and Sheltering Continued

- Made common-sense adjustments to the City Family Homelessness Eviction Prevention
 - Supplemented (FHEPS) rental voucher so the program widened the door out of shelter
 - Redoubled efforts to create and preserve deeply affordable housing
- https://winnyc.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/final-5.8_The-Aftermath-of-COVID-19-Preparing-for-and-Responding-to-Housing-Instabilityv2.pdf

Ohio (OH)

Ohio Department of Health

- The Health Department created a checklist that can be used by shelters and congregate sites to minimize exposure to COVID-19. Shelters and other congregate housing sites can use this checklist to ensure they are following COVID-19 precautions. The directions are clear and succinct
<https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/covid-19/checklists/english-checklists/special-populations-shared-living-facilities-covid-19-checklist>
- Released a resource that speaks to emergency preparedness in long term care facilities and the resident transport component of the preparedness plan as it links to infectious disease (transfer agreements and outside sources of transportation)
<https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/covid-19/healthcare-providers-and-local-health-districts/for-healthcare-providers/Emergency-Preparedness-in-Long-Term-Care-Facilities>
- Created a resource that discusses Ohio workplaces COVID-19 requirements for cloth masks or face coverings and addresses FAQs pertaining to the topic (i.e., proper way to wear, available face coverings, why to wear face coverings, and types of face coverings)
<https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/covid-19/resources/general-resources/cloth-masks-or-face-coverings-in-the-workplace>

Pennsylvania (PA)

Pennsylvania Health Care Association

- Provided hotel rooms for staff needing distancing
<https://www.phca.org/covid19>

Texas (TX)

Texas Department of State Health Services

- Contracts to staff and outfit alternate care sites are in place throughout the state, as well as to coordinate planning efforts with multiple jurisdictions that may have their own surge capacity plans. For instance, the City of Austin used models from the University of Texas to prepare to set up hospital-level care sites with select buildings
<https://www.austintexas.gov/news/surge-plan-developed-treat-covid-19-patients-if-hospitals-are-overwhelmed>

West Virginia (WV)

West Virginia Department of Health and Human Services, Bureau of Public Health

- COVID-19 website includes homeless service providers and home care resources, such as home care and self-isolation guidance for people with suspected or confirmed COVID-19 and guidance on cleaning when caring for ill person in the home
<https://dhhr.wv.gov/COVID-19/Pages/default.aspx>

12. TRANSPORTATION NEEDS

California (CA)

The State of California

- California partnered with United Airlines in April 2020 to provide free, round-trip flights for volunteer medical professionals from across California and the country who join the state's health care workforce

Georgia (GA)

Georgia Health Care Association (GHCA)

- Developed a modified infection control transfer form to help members communicate when admitting hospital transfers. This form can be used bi-directionally by hospitals and skilled nursing facilities
<https://www.ghca.info//Files/Final%20Infection%20Control%20Transfer%20Form%20-%20Fillable.pdf>

Iowa (IA)

Iowa Long Term Care Ombudsman

- Provides individual nursing home support for advocacy of needs at resident level
- Supports residents and families with concerns
- Encourages nursing homes to reach out to the Quality Improvement Organization, the Department of Inspections and Appeals (DIA), and the Iowa Department of Public Health (IDPH) for support
- Website houses multiple resources
<https://www.iowaaging.gov/educational-resources/covid-19-older-iowans>

New Mexico (NM)

State of New Mexico

- Developed transportation capacity with state emergency management function to transport individuals requiring medical sheltering and placement at an alternative care site

New York (NY)

New York State Department of Health

- Interim Guidance for Cleaning and Disinfection of Public Transportation Settings for COVID-19 resource covers cleaning and disinfection guidelines to prevent the spread of COVID-19 in public transportation, including information on routine cleaning; high risk locations; cleaning and disinfection; and staff guidance (hand hygiene, personal protective equipment, and respiratory hygiene)
https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/system/files/documents/2020/03/cleaning_guidance_public_transportation.pdf

West Virginia (WV)

West Virginia Department of Health and Human Services, Bureau of Public Health

- COVID-19 website includes information on medical transport guidelines
<https://dhhr.wv.gov/COVID-19/Pages/default.aspx>

I. State Actions for COVID-19 Management and Response

13. Patient Transfer Continued

13. PATIENT TRANSFER

Arizona (AZ)

Arizona Department of Health Services (ADHS)

- Newly developed, centralized 24/7 call line facilitates interfacility transfer of patients to and from hospitals and nursing homes. This free service is an algorithm based on protocols created by Arizona transfer centers, ADHS, and chief medical officers. In addition, the state has identified two large alternative sites in the event of large hospital surges. This includes St. Luke's Medical Center, which recently closed, and a mall department store
- This system will manage throughput and deter bottlenecks in the emergency department (ED) with four key components:
 - Expediting patient transfer to a higher level of care
 - Expediting patient transfer to a lower level of care
 - Providing a safety net for interfacility transport
 - Providing critical care and palliative care consultation
 - 1.877.SURGE.AZ (1.877.787.4329)
<https://www.azdhs.gov/preparedness/epidemiology-disease-control/infectious-disease-epidemiology/index.php#novel-coronavirus-surge-line>
- An algorithm for nursing homes and hospitals on accepting admissions and readmissions from higher acuity facilities clarifies when patients need to be in isolation or quarantine due to COVID-19
<https://azdhs.gov/documents/preparedness/epidemiology-disease-control/infectious-diseases-services/coronavirus/guidance-accepting-admissions-readmissions-higher-acuity-facilities.pdf>
- By Executive Order, Arizona nursing homes are required to report daily bed availability and status of COVID-19 patients. To facilitate this, a web-based application, the Post Acute Care Capacity Tracker (PACCT), was developed. Having a centralized reporting mechanism will ensure appropriate level of care and reduce redundant phone calls from various hospitals to nursing homes
<https://www.azdhs.gov/preparedness/epidemiology-disease-control/infectious-disease-epidemiology/index.php#novel-coronavirus-surge-line>
- A statewide centralized call station, Arizona (AZ) Surge Line, was created through the Office of the Governor Doug Ducey to facilitate COVID-19 transfers. To match ongoing patient transfer needs to where Intensive Care Unit (ICU) and post-acute beds are available, a web-based application was developed to capture data such as centralized bed availability, vents, staffing, personal protective equipment (PPE), etc., from hospitals and nursing homes. This tracker provides data to AZ Surge Line who arranges COVID-19 transfers from hospitals to nursing home and from remote rural areas, such as the Navajo County where COVID-19 hot-spots are, to ICUs in hospitals
<https://www.azdhs.gov/preparedness/epidemiology-disease-control/infectious-disease-epidemiology/index.php#novel-coronavirus-surge-line>

California (CA)

The County of Los Angeles

- The Department of Public Health provides guidance to skilled nursing facilities (SNFs) on clinical care related to COVID-19 under the direction of the dedicated Hospital Acquired Infection-

I. State Actions for COVID-19 Management and Response

13. Patient Transfer Continued

Antimicrobial Resistance Committee (HAI-ARC) to include directives on interfacility transfer, discharge rules, preventing and managing COVID-19 in long term care facilities and return to facility rules

<http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/media>

San Mateo County Health, Health Plan of San Mateo

- San Mateo County Health designated three skilled nursing facilities (SNFs) as Centers of Excellence to proactively coordinate care for COVID-19 residents. These facilities were identified for their high standards of patient care and expertise with infection control. These Centers of Excellence will treat COVID-19-positive patients discharged from local hospitals, as well as patients from community settings who have COVID-19 and require a higher level of care
https://www.smchealth.org/sites/main/files/file-attachments/san_mateo_county_health_press_release_centers_for_excellence_skilled_nursing_facilities_april_21st_2020_1.pdf

County of San Luis Obispo, Cal Poly San Luis Obispo, Dignity Health, Tenet Healthcare

- The County of San Luis Obispo, in partnership with Cal Poly San Luis Obispo, Dignity Health, and Tenet Healthcare opened its Alternate Care Site located at Cal Poly San Luis Obispo's Recreation Center. This site will help relieve local hospitals and nursing homes by housing patients with needs between home care and hospitalization
<https://www.emergencyslo.org/en/alternate-care-site.aspx>

Connecticut (CT)

Athena Health Care Systems

- Operates four designated COVID-19 recovery centers to accept COVID-19 patients who no longer require acute care but are still impacted by the infection – paid \$600 per patient per day
<https://portal.ct.gov/Office-of-the-Governor/News/Press-Releases/2020/04-2020/Governor-Lamont-Coronavirus-Update-April-11>

Delaware (DE)

Delaware Health Care Facilities Association (DHCFA)

- A discharge planning task force works with accountable care organizations (ACOs) for each county and eBright Health, the state ACO, and all hospitals. It coordinates transfers from hospital to nursing home or assisted living, or vice versa. This takes a lot of communication and has worked extremely well. They want to keep this in place after the crisis.
<https://www.dhcfa.org>

Florida (FL)

Florida Agency for Health Care Administration

- Early in the epidemic, worked with Florida Health Care Association and Florida Hospital Association to provide guidance related to transfers between nursing homes and hospitals
http://ahca.myflorida.com/COVID-19_Facilities.shtml#facility
- Implemented emergency rule mandating hospital testing prior to discharge to long-term care facility
- Directed nursing homes to transfer residents if the nursing home is unable to appropriately isolate and following Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidance
http://ahca.myflorida.com/COVID-19_Facilities.shtml#facility

I. State Actions for COVID-19 Management and Response

13. Patient Transfer Continued

- Facilitated regional collaboratives of hospitals and nursing homes to provide critical infection control education and support

Georgia (GA)

Georgia Health Care Association (GHCA)

- Developed a modified infection control transfer form to help members communicate when admitting hospital transfers. This form can be used bi-directionally by hospitals and skilled nursing facilities
<https://www.ghca.info//Files/Final%20Infection%20Control%20Transfer%20Form%20-%20Fillable.pdf>

Illinois (IL)

Illinois Critical Access Hospital Network (ICAHN)

- Provides swing beds for COVID-19-positive patients upon discharge from the hospital
<https://www.c-span.org/video/?471210-3/washington-journal-pat-schou-discusses-rural-health-care-coronavirus-pandemic>

Illinois Health and Hospital Association (IHA)

- IHA collaborated with three nursing homes trade associations and the Illinois Department of Public Health on the development of transfer guidance from hospital settings to skilled and intermediate long-term care settings
https://www.team-ihh.org/files/non-gated/quality/guidance_regarding_hospital_4-7-20.aspx

Indiana (IN)

Indiana State Department of Health (ISDH)

- An ISDH waiver issued guidance for creating COVID-19 long term care facilities:
 - Waiving facility staffing requirements
 - Enhancing reimbursement rates for COVID-19 facilities by 50 percent
 - Providing liability protection
 - Giving data support to help hospitals identify post-acute COVID-19 facilities for transfer
 - Providing infection control teams to train facilities on COVID-19 testing
 - Provisioning all necessary personal protective equipment (PPE) equipment as a “priority” facility, similar to hospitalshttps://www.coronavirus.in.gov/files/IN_COVID-19%20State%20Requirements%20and%20Guidance%20for%20COVID%20dedicated%20facilities....pdf
- ISDH negotiated a transfer agreement between the hospital and long term care facility associations, which uses five categories of resident/patient transfers to facilitate the safest movement of persons between facilities
https://www.coronavirus.in.gov/files/IN_COVID-19_LTCtransfer%205.7.20.pdf%20
- Working with local organizations, ISDH created documents and best-practice sheets to help facilities and hospital to better communicate around facility transfers
 - Hospital to Post-Acute Care Transfer COVID-19 Assessment:
https://www.coronavirus.in.gov/files/IN_COVID-19_Hospital%20to%20Post-Acute%20Care%20Transfer%205.11.20.pdf
 - Best Practices When Transferring to the Hospital:
<https://www.coronavirus.in.gov/files/Tips%20for%20transferring%20to%20Hosp%20Fin>

I. State Actions for COVID-19 Management and Response

13. Patient Transfer Continued

- [al.pdf](#)
- COVID-19: Hospital Hand-off to Nursing Home:
<https://www.coronavirus.in.gov/files/Hosp%20Hand%20Off%20to%20NH%20Final.pdf>
- COVID-19 Nursing Home Accepting Transfer from Hospital:
<https://www.coronavirus.in.gov/files/NH%20accepting%20transfer%20from%20Hosp%20Final.pdf>

Indiana Department of Homeland Security

- Emergency Medical Services, through the Indiana Department of Homeland Security, coordinated with the 911 system and nursing homes to use 911 as the method of communication for a positive COVID-19 resident prior to transfer to the hospital so that emergency medical services (EMS) crews are prepared and 911 dispatch is aware that the unit will be out of service for two hours after transfer to decontaminate

Iowa (IA)

Unity Point Healthcare (UPH) Accountable Care Organization Response

- Unity Point Healthcare launched an initiative to ensure safe transfers of patients transitioning to a skilled nursing facility (SNF)
- UPH will test any patient for COVID-19 prior to transition to a SNF. UPH is identifying space within each of its hospitals where patients who remain positive for COVID-19 but no longer require acute care can remain until they are safe to transition to a SNF
<https://www.unitypoint.org/coronavirus.aspx>

Kentucky (KY)

Kentucky Association of Health Care Facilities (KAHCF)

- KAHCF, in collaboration with long term care administrators, developed guidance on hospital transfer from hospitals to long term care facilities

Kentucky Hospital Association

- The Kentucky Hospital Association (KHA) developed a COVID-19 toolkit that is available on its website and includes guidance documents on closure and reopening of elective procedures, visitation, health care employee return to work, and discharge of hospital patients to long term care
<https://www.kyha.com/admin-resources>

Maine (ME)

MaineHealth, Northern Light Healthcare

- Two large health systems collaborated with hospital, nursing home, and home health associations to create a protocol/recommendations for skilled nursing facility (SNF) transfers
<https://files.constantcontact.com/61812921601/bbba135e-b54a-4d96-8385-d3218b31397f.pdf>

Massachusetts (MA)

Buoy Health

- Developed an artificial intelligence assistant app that has an online coronavirus symptom checker, which uses an algorithm to determine the need for residents to be transferred from the nursing home to the hospital
<https://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/buoy-health-calms-coronavirus-fear-serves-up->

I. State Actions for COVID-19 Management and Response

13. Patient Transfer Continued

[population-health-data-to-help-control-the-rising-epidemic-in-the-united-states-301024768.html](https://www.cdc.gov/media/releases/2020/s0414-population-health-data-to-help-control-the-rising-epidemic-in-the-united-states-301024768.html)

Michigan (MI)

University of Michigan

- Increasingly, many individuals transition from hospitals to nursing homes to complete their recovery from serious health events as post-acute care patients. The Preventing Resistance and Infection by Integrating Systems in Michigan (MI PRIISM) project aims to develop a robust, integrated infection prevention program leveraging the increasingly close relationship between hospitals and their preferred referral nursing homes
<https://priism.med.umich.edu/home>

New Jersey (NJ)

New Jersey Department of Health

- Resident Transfer Protocol aligns with the New Jersey health commissioner plan to work with long term care centers to identify which facilities can separate infected residents or those with symptoms from the resident population. Facilities without wing/floor cohort ability are prioritized for transfer
<https://www.nj.com/coronavirus/2020/04/nj-looks-to-transfer-residents-from-hardest-hit-nursing-homes-as-48-more-die-from-coronavirus.html>

New Jersey Long Term Care Ombudsman (LTCO)

- Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) drafted a memorandum to State Survey Agency Directors. The CMS memorandum directed notification requirements for facilities when transferring residents to an acute care facility on an emergent basis. The resource speaks to the LTCO responding to requests for clarification about what information facilities should send to LTCO when a resident is subject to a transfer to an acute care facility on an emergency basis, the background of this issue, and direction on what information the LTCO will accept
<https://ichoosehome.nj.gov/ooie/emergency.shtml>

New Mexico (NM)

New Mexico Department of Health, Home Care Association and Medical Advisory Team

- Collaborated with New Mexico Home Care Association and Medical Advisory Team on the development of transfer guidance from hospital settings to skilled and intermediate long-term care settings

New York (NY)

New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH)

- Outlined the public health emergency response, guidance, and recommended practices to assist nursing homes in the processing and removal of decedents during the COVID-19 outbreak
https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/system/files/documents/2020/04/doh_nhresidentdeaths_041920.pdf
- Created an Advisory: Hospital Discharges and Admissions to Nursing Homes/ Expedited Receipt of Residents Returning from Hospitals to Nursing Homes
- Residents are deemed appropriate for return to a nursing home upon a determination by the hospital physician or designee that the resident is medically stable for return
- Hospital discharge planners must confirm to the nursing home, by telephone, that the resident

I. State Actions for COVID-19 Management and Response

13. Patient Transfer Continued

is medically stable for discharge. Comprehensive discharge instructions must be provided by the hospital prior to the transport of a resident to the nursing home.

- No resident shall be denied re-admission or admission to the nursing home solely based on a confirmed or suspected diagnosis of COVID-19. Nursing homes are prohibited from requiring a hospitalized resident who is determined medically stable to be tested for COVID-19 prior to admission or readmission
<https://www1.nyc.gov/assets/doh/downloads/pdf/imm/contingency-surge-methods-alternate-care-sites.pdf>
- Reviewed the New York State Governors policy and specific guidance related to COVID-19 returns to nursing homes. New protocols on testing inside nursing homes are also included
<https://www.ny1.com/nyc/all-boroughs/news/2020/05/10/state-reverses-controversial-coronavirus-nursing-home-policy->

Office of the Governor Andrew Cuomo

- This resource speaks to Governor Cuomo's Executive Order for the suspension and modification of various laws and regulations authorized under applicable to nursing homes, which are no longer suspended and fully effective as of May 8, 2020 (facilitate transfers, rapid discharge, and transfer between hospitals and nursing homes)
<https://www.leadingageny.org/topics/coronavirus/leadingage-ny-resources/certain-nursing-home-requirements-waived-under-executive-orders-back-in-effect>

Nevada (NV)

Nevada Health Care Association, Hospital Association, and Rural Hospital Partners

- A COVID-19-specific transfer form has been developed and is being implemented across these memberships, representing a very large portion of the Nevada health care community

North Carolina (NC)

North Carolina Health Care Foundation (NCHA)

- The NCHA created a workforce document, "Strategies to Support Nursing Surge Capacity During Biological Events," in collaboration with the North Carolina Healthcare Foundation, North Carolina Organization of Nurse Leaders, and the North Carolina Directors of Nursing Administration in Long Term Care (NCDONA/LTC)
- The document is based off of a New Jersey Hospital Association toolkit for long term care facilities
https://www.ncha.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/Nursing_Surge_Capacity_Resource_2020.pdf

Ohio (OH)

End-Stage Renal Disease (ESRD) Network

- To ensure care quality and patient safety, the ESRD Network established education to assist in care transitions

LeadingAge Ohio

- This resource includes Q&A discussion and guidance to health care providers related to protocols in place for patients returning from hospitalization; screening new admissions; and accommodating individuals and families requesting a tour of the facility in anticipation of admission

I. State Actions for COVID-19 Management and Response

13. Patient Transfer Continued

https://www.leadingageohio.org/aws/LAO/asset_manager/get_file/434627?ver=49

Ohio Department of Health

- The Health Department created a checklist that can be used by shelters and congregate sites to minimize exposure to COVID-19. Shelters and other congregate housing sites can use this checklist to ensure they are following COVID-19 precautions. The directions are clear and succinct
<https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/covid-19/checklists/english-checklists/special-populations-shared-living-facilities-covid-19-checklist>
- Released a resource that speaks to emergency preparedness in long term care facilities and the resident transport component of the preparedness plan as it links to infectious disease (transfer agreements and outside sources of transportation)
<https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/covid-19/healthcare-providers-and-local-health-districts/for-healthcare-providers/Emergency-Preparedness-in-Long-Term-Care-Facilities>
- Created a resource that discusses Ohio workplaces COVID-19 requirements for cloth masks or face coverings and addresses FAQs pertaining to the topic (i.e., proper way to wear, available face coverings, why to wear face coverings, and types of face coverings)
<https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/covid-19/resources/general-resources/cloth-masks-or-face-coverings-in-the-workplace>

Ohio Funeral Directors Association

- The Ohio Funeral Directors Association prepared recommendations to facilitate the transfer of deceased patients from nursing homes, long term care, and hospitals into the care of the funeral director
https://www.ema.ohio.gov/Documents/covid19/Hospice_Guidance.pdf

OMDA - The Ohio Society for Post-Acute and Long-Term Care Medicine

- The Skilled Nursing Facility to Hospital and Hospital to Skilled Nursing Facility COVID- 19 Transfer Communication Tool documents an individual's medical status related to COVID-2019 to help facilitate communication between skilled nursing facilities and hospitals during patient transfers and admissions
<http://ohioamda.org/aws/OMDA/pt/sp/resources>

Pennsylvania (PA)

Pennsylvania Health Care Association (PHCA)

- Nursing home association representing most nursing homes in Pennsylvania allows nursing homes to transfer residents if unable to care for them
<https://www.phca.org/covid19>

Texas (TX)

Texas Health and Human Services Commission Regulatory Services

- A patient/resident transfer assessment guidance and process flow assists with transfers of patients from hospitals to long term care facilities

Virginia (VA)

Virginia Health Care Association (VHCA)

- Created and distributed two documents to provide guidance for patient transfers during the

I. State Actions for COVID-19 Management and Response

13. Patient Transfer Continued

pandemic. The first document, “Guidance on Hospital Transfer and Admission of Patients to Long Term Care Facilities (LTCFs) During COVID-19 Emergency,” is a protocol for hospitals that discharge patients to LTCF as admissions or readmissions

https://www.vhca.org/files/2020/04/VHCA-LA-VHHA-COVID-19-LTCF-Hospital-Guidance_Final_04-22-20.pdf

- The second document is an algorithm for assessing if a patient can be transferred safely and appropriately to a LTCF
https://www.vhca.org/files/2020/04/COVID-Hospital-to-Post-Acute-Transfer-Form_04-22-20final.pdf

Washington (WA)

State of Washington

- The state of Washington has responded well to the pandemic, with many organizations working to support the implementation and spread of nursing home- related state action
- Larger facilities and corporations are establishing COVID-19-specific facilities to receive discharges from hospitals, with increased hazard pay for employees and dedicated resources
- The state of Washington, with support of the hospital and nursing home associations, developed a standardized state-wide process for coordinating discharges from hospitals to nursing homes so as not to overwhelm any one facility

West Virginia (WV)

West Virginia Health Care Association and West Virginia Department of Health and Human Services (WVDHHS)

- In conjunction with WVDHHS Bureau for Public Health Division of Infectious Disease Epidemiology, developed guidelines for COVID-19 outbreaks in long term care facilities, which covers management of residents returning from hospitalization or new admissions; criteria to remove residents from isolation; and nursing facility transfers
<https://dhhr.wv.gov/COVID-19/Pages/default.aspx>

14. RESOURCES

Alabama (AL)

Alabama Nursing Home Association (ANHA), Alabama Department of Health (ADPH), Alliant Health Solutions

- Host COVID-19 office hours on Tuesdays and Thursdays through August 27, 2020 for facilities to discuss and share COVID-19 best practices. These partners are also planning a monthly Health care acquired-infection (HAI) Huddle webinar on the last Friday of each month to provide guidance on some of the common themes brought forth during the office hour calls. Information related to these calls will be included in the ANHA newsletter

Office of the Governor Kay Ivey

- An Alabama state-based COVID-19 taskforce is maintaining a website which provides a wide variety of helpful COVID-19 information, including testing sites, news, and resources. The website is intended to also connect businesses, nonprofits, and people that need help with the right program partners and to connect program partners with people and resources to help those most in need
<https://covid19.alabama.gov>

Office of the Lieutenant Governor Will Ainsworth, Business Council of Alabama, Chamber of Commerce Association of Alabama, AlabamaWorks!, Chamber of Commerce of West Alabama, Dothan Area Chamber of Commerce, Southeast AlabamaWorks!, West AlabamaWorks!

- Alabama has created an online personal protective equipment (PPE), employment, and material resource guide for providers to find available supplies, disinfectants, PPE, employer/employee guidance, and more external pertinent links
<https://tuscaloosachamber.com/business-toolkit>

Alaska (AK)

Alzheimer's Resource of Alaska

- This organization provides care coordination services and education and connects residents to meaningful activities and community
<https://www.alzalaska.org/programs-services-2>

Arizona (AZ)

Arizona Health Care Association (AHCA)

- AHCA developed a program to implement emergency preparedness and incident command training for nursing homes
- This work is funded by a grant from the Arizona Department of Health Services
- The program also created a COVID-19 web page with information relevant to nursing homes, which includes information on national, state, and local guidelines

California (CA)

California Health Care Foundation

- Provides COVID-19 resources to support nursing home providers, patients, and families to have conversations about serious illness and end-of-life care
- Online resources cover topics such as support for health care providers, patients, and families;

State Actions for COVID-19 Management and Response

14. Resources Continued

the importance of advance care planning and palliative care in the context of COVID-19; and support for health systems regarding critical care resources

<https://www.chcf.org/publication/covid-19-resources-serious-illness-end-of-life-care>

Coalition for Compassionate Care of California

- Offers a COVID-10 Conversations Toolbox for patients, families, and providers in nursing homes as they navigate end-of-life decision-making during these challenging times
- The toolbox includes decision aids, COVID-19-specific scripts, conversation tips, and other tools to help facilitate conversations about care

<https://coalitionccc.org/covid-conversations-toolbox>

County of Santa Clara Emergency Operations Center

- Organized local resources to meet projected needs for skilled nursing facilities
- Distributed a survey for residents to document skills and matched them with specific nursing home needs, such as janitorial services and social work

<https://www.sccgov.org/sites/covid19/Pages/i-can-help.aspx>

YMCA of Orange County

- Twenty-eight YMCAs in Orange County are offering childcare services from 6:45 AM to 6:00 PM so that nurses can go to work. A staff member is dedicated at each site to sterilize and disinfect everything that the children and staff come in contact with. Children are screened for symptoms each day and stay in the same group of 10 throughout the day

<https://abc7.com/ymca-free-childcare-oc-covid-coronavirus/6056867>

Colorado (CO)

Office of the Governor Jared Polis

- Amended Executive Order D 2020 070 to change the fund source for the accounting of certain CARES Act Fund dollars for education, and to clarify the permissible uses of CARES Act Fund dollars for units of local government
- Initiated a COVID-19 Innovation Response Team, taking a multipronged approach that includes increased testing, tailored social-distancing measures, a reinforced health care system, and a bolstering of state epidemiological resources

<https://covid19.colorado.gov/press-release/state-announces-residential-outbreak-task-force>

Delaware (DE)

Delaware Health Care Facilities Association (DHCFA)

- Arranged a dance party for staff
- There was a DJ set up outside of the facility and staff came out to dance while residents watched from the windows

<https://www.dhcfa.org>

Florida (FL)

Florida Health Care Association

- Shares COVID-19 information on its website

<https://www.fhca.org>

Florida Health Care Coalitions

State Actions for COVID-19 Management and Response

14. Resources Continued

- Offers dedicated page on website for COVID-19 information, including information about symptoms, handwashing, social distancing, and Q&As
<https://floridahealthcovid19.gov>

Florida Hospital Association

- Shares COVID-19 information on its website
<http://www.fha.org>

Florida Society for Post-Acute and Long-Term Care Medicine (FMDA)

- Provides COVID-19 library of related resources on web page
<https://www.fmda.org/covid-19.php>

Georgia (GA)

Georgia Department of Public Health (GA DPH)

- Georgia DPH has been a supportive agency for all facets of health care during this pandemic
- Its ability to provide on-site support and develop a process for video audits has been invaluable to those that are in “hot spots” of COVID-19 activity
- Collects data from health care facilities on the State Electronic Notifiable Disease Surveillance System (SENDSS) network
- Supports health care facilities with virtual and on-site visits
- Tests for COVID-19 samples at the GA DPH laboratory
<https://dph.georgia.gov>

Hawaii (HI)

Center to Advance Palliative Care

- Created COVID-19 toolkit to assist with palliative care, hospice, and end-of-life decisions
<https://www.capc.org/toolkits/covid-19-response-resources>

Kokua Mau Continuous Care

- Deployed a COVID-19-specific resource page
<https://kokuamau.org/covid-19-resources>

Illinois (IL)

Health Care Council of Illinois (HCCI)

- Developed COVID-19 Resource page, updated daily with information regarding state and federal regulations, infection control, personal protective equipment (PPE), and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) information
- Prepares weekly member newsletters and email blasts on COVID-19 related resources and events throughout the state
<http://www.hccil.org/covid-19>

Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH)

- Had long term care facilities complete a COVID-19 infection control assessment
- Telligen has partnered with IDPH to conduct outreach to nursing homes that do not have any cases of COVID-19, in order to proactively support infection prevention practices
- COVID-19 website includes long term care guidance, information on facility outbreaks, and links to the governor’s daily briefings

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14. Resources Continued

<https://www.dph.illinois.gov/covid19>

Illinois Health Care Association (IHCA)

- Conduct weekly COVID-19 interactive updates on Facebook live member alerts
<https://www.ihca.com/Files/COMM-COVID-19/Facebook%20Live-COVID%20Working%20Document-4-17-2020.pdf>
- Offers resource on steps to prevent COVID-19 from entering facility
https://www.ihca.com/Files/Comm_Article%20Info&Updates/Preventing%20COVID-19%20From%20Entering%20Facilities.pdf

Office of the Governor J.B. Pritzker

- Illinois Governor J.B. Pritzker issued a Gubernatorial Disaster Proclamation in response to the ongoing COVID-19 situation to assist Illinois agencies in coordinating state and federal resources, including the Strategic National Stockpile of medicines and protective equipment, to support local governments in preparation for any action that may be necessary related to the potential impact of COVID-19 in the state of Illinois
<https://www2.illinois.gov/sites/gov/Documents/APPROVED%20-%20Coronavirus%20Disaster%20Proc%20WORD.pdf>
- The Governor provides a coronavirus update briefing daily
- Drive through testing sites are available throughout the state; all health care workers and residents with symptoms are eligible for testing
<https://dph.illinois.gov/covid19/covid-19-testing-sites>

Rush University Geriatric Workforce Enhancement Program (GWEP)

- Collaborating and supporting other Rush facilities and Illinois trade associations by providing free COVID-19 and infection prevention-related learning collaboratives and learning sessions to all provider types
<http://catch-on.org>

Indiana (IN)

Indiana State Department of Health (ISDH)

- Created a position to oversee the state's COVID-19 long term care response. This position worked between both ISDH, which provides the regulatory oversight of the facilities, and the Family and Social Services Administration (FSSA) Medicaid Agency and Division of Aging, which oversees the payment and care responses
- Created preparedness toolkits for all long term care facilities
https://www.coronavirus.in.gov/files/IN_COVID-19%20IP%20Toolkit%20ISDH_5.5.2020.pdf
- Created dedicated area on its page for all long term care guidance
<https://www.coronavirus.in.gov/2399.htm>
- Reports weekly aggregate long term care data on its web page dashboard
<https://www.coronavirus.in.gov/2393.htm>

Iowa (IA)

Iowa Department of Inspections and Appeals

- Fields individual nursing home questions specific to survey or regulation, created a website FAQ document for support on common questions, and provides 1135 waiver guidance. During surveys, the Department encourages nursing homes to reach out to the Quality Improvement Organization (QIO) or Iowa Department of Public Health (IDPH) for support
<https://dia.iowa.gov/about/novel-coronavirus-covid-19>

Iowa Department of Public Health

- Website houses multiple resources for COVID-19 guidance and long term care recorded webinars
- Conducts support webinars with ample Q&A time
- Manages hotline and individual nursing home assistance via email
- Provides support through emergency response team available (for example, personal protective equipment [PPE] supply)
- Create guidance documents for state-specific requirements and reporting support
<https://idph.iowa.gov/Emerging-Health-Issues/Novel-Coronavirus/Long-Term-Care>

Iowa Health Care Association

- Provides individual technical assistance; group meeting support; a weekly conference call; regular member newsletters; survey, reporting, and regulatory guidance; and a website that houses multiple COVID-19 resources, including a toolkit, the Telligen Telehealth Guide, updates and other topics
<https://www.iowahealthcare.org/member-resources/emergency-preparedness/infection-control-resources>

Iowa Long Term Care Ombudsman

- Provides individual nursing home support for advocacy of needs at resident level
- Supports residents and families with concerns
- Encourages nursing homes to reach out to the Quality Improvement Organization (QIO), the Department of Inspections and Appeals (DIA), and the Iowa Department of Public Health (IDPH) for support
- Website houses multiple resources
<https://www.iowaaging.gov/educational-resources/covid-19-older-iowans>

LeadingAge of Iowa

- Provides individual technical assistance; a weekly conference call; regular member newsletters; survey and regulatory guidance; and a website housing multiple COVID-19 topics
<https://www.leadingageiowa.org/covid-19>

Office of the Governor Kim Reynolds

- The governor's COVID-19 website includes information for long term care facilities that link to resources from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)
<https://coronavirus.iowa.gov>

14. Resources Continued

University of Iowa

- The National Nursing Home Social Work Network is a geriatric workforce enhancement program funded by grants from the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) to develop a health care workforce that maximizes patient safety and engagement and to improve health outcomes for older adults. Much of its work is focused on long term care
- The program offers a weekly online support group meeting and multiple online resources for advance care planning, ethical decisions, and how to prepare and support residents, staff, families, and themselves

<https://clas.uiowa.edu/socialwork/nursing-home/national-nursing-home-social-work-network>

Kansas (KS)

Topeka Center for Rehab

- Facility worked with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) on the development of their surge plan, including an establishing a morgue plan. The morgue plan includes outside facilities that the nursing home would be able to use if needed and a separate area/room which has supplies such as body bags, toe tags and deodorizer

Kentucky (KY)

Kentucky Hospital Association

- The Kentucky Hospital Association (KHA) developed a COVID-19 toolkit that is available on its website and includes guidance documents on closure and reopening of elective procedures, visitation, health care employee return to work, and discharge of hospital patients to long term care

<https://www.kyha.com/admin-resources>

Norton Health Care

- Developed a post-acute team and call line to assist skilled nursing facilities
- Expects the call line to be rolled out statewide (more guidance on the web page)

<https://kahcfkcal.org>

State of Kentucky

- The State of Kentucky is maintaining a website which contains information about COVID-19 testing center locations, rates of infection by state and county, a COVID-19 Hotline (800-722-5725), a link to a daily report of COVID-19 epidemiological data, and a link to the most current long term care update by the state

<https://govstatus.egov.com/kycovid19>

Maine (ME)

Maine Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS)

- MaineCare will pay extra costs associated with COVID-19, including staffing, supplies, and personal protective equipment, with \$10.1 million in state and federal funds to support facilities
<https://www.maine.gov/governor/mills/news/mills-administration-takes-steps-support-nursing-homes-response-covid-19-2020-03-26>
- The Division of Licensing and Certification partnered with the state health department and the ombudsman program to pool resources to complete Infection Control Assessment and Response (ICAR) programs in all Maine nursing facilities within three days

14. Resources Continued

<https://www.maine.gov/tools/whatsnew/index.php?topic=DHS+Press+Releases&id=2410756&v=article>

Maine Health Care Association

- Encouraged children to write notes, upload a drawing, or send a short video to residents in nursing homes and assisted living facilities
<https://www.mehca.org/e-notes4lts>

Maryland (MD)

FutureCare Nursing Homes

- Established an employee phone line for staff to answer questions related to COVID-19
- The phone line is open between 9 AM – 5 PM daily
<https://futurecare.com/covidanswerline>
- Dr. William Mansbach developed five employee support videos on diet and hydration, breathing, information overload, physical exercise, and cognitive exercises
<https://futurecare.com/employeesupport>

SavaSeniorCare Administrative Services

- Created a toolkit to support residents and staff in having meaningful engagement while practicing social distancing and precautions
- The goal is to ensure there is connection in the ways it matters most
<https://www.savaseniorcare.com/sava-announcements>

Massachusetts (MA)

- State waived requirement for in-person documentation related to Medical Orders for Life Sustaining Treatment (MOLST). This allowed for conversations to continue with family and practitioners supporting the resident choice for end-of-life care
<https://www.honoringchoicesmass.com/ma-allows-verbal-consent-on-molst/>

Michigan (MI)

Detroit Health Department, Office of the Mayor Mike Duggan, Henry Ford Health System Division of Infectious Diseases

- Conducted multiple testings for residents and health care workers at 26 Detroit nursing homes, provisioned personal protective equipment, and conducted in-person education and consultation on infection prevention and control for all 26 facilities
<https://www.henryford.com/coronavirus>

Henry Ford Health System (HFHS)

- Uses information technology with CarePort to help find appropriate beds for patients during peak crisis. Donated excess personal protective equipment (PPE) to skilled nursing facilities, home health care agencies, and community partners
- Work collaboratively with CarePort/Allscripts to help home dialysis facilities cohort patients. Certain organizations are contacted twice daily to notify them of patients being discharged and their COVID-19 status. This ensures that these organizations were able to isolate and protect all patients and staff
- Collaborate with a regional hub for an outpatient COVID-19 unit by providing staff support to prepare the new unit to accept COVID-19-positive patients that needed placement

14. Resources Continued

<https://www.henryford.com/coronavirus>

Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS)

- The COVID-19 Infection Prevention Resource and Assessment Team (iPRAT) was activated by MDHHS to prevent COVID-19 infections and contain the spread of COVID-19 in long term care facilities
- The team works closely with the Medical Services Administration, Michigan Long Term Care Ombudsman, Michigan Licensing and Regulatory Affairs, and local health department partners

Michigan Hospital Association

- Launched a hospital donation tool
<https://protecttheheroes.org>
- Hosts hospital donation sites link to collect financial and personal protective equipment donations to help their local facilities
<https://mha.org/Portals/0/Issues%20and%20Advocacy/michigan-hospital-donations-covid-19.pdf>

Wayne State University Institute of Gerontology

- Hosts virtual tool for elder abuse (misappropriation)
<https://iog.wayne.edu/iogresponsetocovid-19>

University of Michigan College of Engineering, Precision Health, Michigan Medicine

- Developed the model which uses a machine-learning algorithm to crunch more than 200 health and demographic variables of individual COVID-19 patients. The model then outputs a numerical score, updated every four hours, that predicts the patient's likelihood of requiring intensive care unit-level care. Preliminary validation of the model has shown it to be effective in predicting the progression of the disease
<https://ihpi.umich.edu/news/faster-covid-computer-model-predicts-diseases-next-move>

Minnesota (MN)

Beaumont

- Advance care planning in-service provides skilled nursing facilities and other health care settings tools and resources for initiating the advance care planning conversation during COVID-19
www.beaumont.org/patients-families/respecting-choices-at-beaumont-advance-care-planning

Minnesota Department of Health (MDH)

- The COVID-19 Infection Control Assessment and Response (ICAR) Action Plan developed by MDH prepares nursing homes for COVID-19 by addressing these topics: administrative, surveillance, education, hand hygiene, transmission-based precautions, personal protective equipment, cleaning, and transfers
- Posted a long term care toolkit, intended for use to plan for a potential COVID-19 case or during an outbreak at a facility. Nursing homes can download this toolkit to implement measures to prevent and control disease spread in their homes, and to collect data that will help track respiratory illness and COVID-19 in residents and staff
<https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/hcp/ltctoolkit.pdf>

Minnesota Association for Geriatrics Inspired Clinicians (MAGIC)

State Actions for COVID-19 Management and Response

14. Resources Continued

- Created Managing COVID-19: A Guide for Skilled Nursing Facilities and Assisted Living Settings developed by MAGIC Clinical Practice Alliance Committee (CPAC)
- MAGIC thoroughly reviewed publications from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Minnesota Department of Health (MDH), and AMDA The Society for Post-Acute and Long Term Care Medicine and developed a comprehensive guide to provide concise information for managing COVID-19
<https://www.minnesotageriatrics.org/covid-19.html>

Mississippi (MS)

Mississippi State Department of Health (MSDH) – Epidemiology Department

- Partners with MSDH Licensure & Certification with frequent contact
- Provides consultation to prevent the spread of COVID-19 in nursing homes
- Assists with personal protective equipment attainment
- Nursing homes that have COVID-19 cases receive daily follow-up

Missouri (MO)

Missouri Department of Public Health

- Website provides a local, zip code-level map of positive cases, as well as charts/graphs of COVID-19 cases and deaths by age, sex, and race
- A map of testing locations also is provided, with a hotline number and resources for the public
<https://www.stlcorona.com>

Quality Improvement Program for Missouri (QIPMO)

- In addition to an online COVID-19 resource compendium, QIPMO recently developed a COVID-19 SBAR (Situation, Background, Appearance/Assessment, Review/Recommendation) tool for nursing homes
<https://nursinghomehelp.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/SBAR-for-COVID-19.pdf>
- The COVID-19 SBAR is used by facilities to document and communicate changes in resident status due to COVID-19 that would require action to be taken such as transfer to acute care
<https://nursinghomehelp.org/educationcategory/coronavirus-covid-19>

Montana (MT)

Montana Department of Public Health

- Emergency preparedness program assists providers and communities with COVID-19 resources, information, and supplies/personal protective equipment requests
<https://dphhs.mt.gov/publichealth/PHEP>

Nebraska (NE)

American Red Cross Innovative Blood resources (IBR)

- Facilitates plasma donation from people who have fully recovered from COVID-19 for at least two weeks
<https://www.innovativebloodresources.org>
<https://www.ncbb.org>
<https://www.redcrossblood.org/donate-blood/dlp/plasma-donations-from-recovered-covid-19-patients.html>

State Actions for COVID-19 Management and Response

14. Resources Continued

Catholic Health Initiatives (CHI)

- Lists facilities involved in Mayo Clinic Protocol-COVID-19 convalescent plasma donation
<https://www.catholichealthinitiatives.org/en/patient-care/locations.html>

Nevada (NV)

Nevada Rural Hospital Partners

- The Nevada rural hospital partners that support all rural health care facilities, including nursing homes, developed a COVID-19 resource toolkit
<https://coronavirus.utah.gov/wp-content/uploads/COVID-19-HCW-Screening-Tool-Passport.pdf>

New Jersey (NJ)

LeadingAge

- Resident engagement during social isolation: Presentations and recommendations from members to keep residents engaged during social isolation
https://leadingage.org/resident-engagement-during-social-isolation?mkt_tok=eyJpIjoiT1RReVlXSTFZekI3TkVVeilsInQiOiJGRUJKZEhBckJuQ2hnM2tBWDZCcDZBV2xuNWJyXC9mTE1XQ1c1R1pZVnFnem8yUW45NkNSWTBYMkVBUE5CZXBycDJmc2xiYkt4Sm5zNlhaXC9RQzRHY09aelA1TWGaXJkS1VubW5XeXpW

New Jersey Department of Health

- The Tele-ICAR tool for long-term care and assisted living facilities was developed by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and is intended to help long term care (LTC) and assisted living facilities (ALF) respond effectively to COVID-19 by evaluating the status of their current response activities
https://www.nj.gov/health/cd/documents/topics/NCOV/COVID_Tele_ICAR_Assess_Tool.pdf
- The Guidance for COVID-19 Diagnosed and/or Exposed Healthcare Personnel resource addresses the widespread transmission of COVID-19 in New Jersey, the likelihood of asymptomatic and pre-symptomatic transmission, and the feasibility and benefits of formal contact tracing in health care settings
https://www.nj.gov/health/cd/documents/topics/NCOV/Guidance_for_COVID19_Diagnosed_andor_Exposed_HCP.pdf
- The Quick Reference: Discontinuation of Transmission-Based Precautions and Home Isolation for Persons Diagnosed with COVID-19 tool helps health care facilities, health care providers, and local public health officials determine when to discontinue isolation for persons with confirmed COVID-19
https://www.nj.gov/health/cd/documents/topics/NCOV/COVID-QuickRef_Discont_Isolation_and_TBP.pdf
- Developed the retrospective assessment tool for health care personnel (HCP) potentially exposed to COVID-19. This tool can be used to assess HCP exposure risk prior to the patient being identified as having COVID-19
<https://www.nj.gov/health/cd/documents/topics/NCOV/Retropective%20Assessment%20Tool%20for%20Healthcare%20Personnel%20Potentially%20Exposed%20to%20COVID-19.pdf>
- This document can be used to assess the type of potential exposure health care personnel may have experienced while caring for the COVID-19 patient and assign risk level (high, medium, low, or no risk). It also provides guidance on the management of exposed health care personnel
[https://www.nj.gov/health/cd/documents/topics/NCOV/Healthcare%20Personnel%20\(HCP\)%20Exposure%20to%20Confirmed%20COVID-19%20Case%20Risk%20Algorithm.pdf](https://www.nj.gov/health/cd/documents/topics/NCOV/Healthcare%20Personnel%20(HCP)%20Exposure%20to%20Confirmed%20COVID-19%20Case%20Risk%20Algorithm.pdf)

State Actions for COVID-19 Management and Response

14. Resources Continued

- This tool can be used to monitor and assess the appropriate use of personal protective equipment (PPE) for health care personnel caring for the COVID-19 patient after they have been identified in the facility
[https://www.nj.gov/health/cd/documents/topics/NCOV/NJDOH%20COVID-19%20Healthcare%20Personnel%20\(HCP\)%20Exposure%20Checklist.pdf](https://www.nj.gov/health/cd/documents/topics/NCOV/NJDOH%20COVID-19%20Healthcare%20Personnel%20(HCP)%20Exposure%20Checklist.pdf)
- Tool incorporates recommendations and reporting requirements to assist in the control of outbreak at facility
https://www.nj.gov/health/cd/documents/topics/NCOV/COVID_Outbreak_Management_Checklist.pdf
- Information for providers and families on Physicians Orders for Life Sustaining Treatment (POLST) and end-of-life conversations
<https://nj.gov/health/advancedirective/polst>
- Tool can be used by a health care facility or local health department to track HCP under active monitoring
https://www.nj.gov/health/cd/topics/covid2019_healthcare.shtml#2
- This tool can be used by a health care facility or local health department to assist HCP with daily symptom monitoring
<https://www.nj.gov/health/cd/documents/topics/NCOV/NJDOH%20COVID-19%20Fever%20and%20Symptom%20Monitoring%20Log%20for%20HCP%203.9.20.pdf>

New Jersey Department of Human Services

- Funding used to expand access to counseling and other mental health support during the pandemic. The funds help New Jersey residents facing behavioral health issues during this crisis get the emotional support they need
<https://www.state.nj.us/humanservices/news/pressreleases/2020/approved/20200518.html>

New Mexico (NM)

State of New Mexico

- Set up a COVID-19 website, including information about symptoms, handwashing, social distancing, and Q&As
- Informational hotlines established to educate and inform on fact vs. fiction
- Nursing homes have distributed iPads for residents to facilitate virtual communication and visits with families
- Infection preventionists from the local public health districts and state departments of health are providing consultations to nursing homes

New York (NY)

Long Term Care Community Coalition

- The Emergency Action Plan: Save Lives of Residents in New York Long Term Care Facilities resource highlights components of a recommended COVID-19 action plan based on existing policies, known issues and concerns (i.e., preventing COVID-19 from entering nursing homes, daily resident monitoring, sufficient staffing, infection prevention and control transparency, personal protective equipment availability, resident and staff testing)
<https://nursinghome411.org/covid-emergency-action-plan>

14. Resources Continued

New York State Department of Health

- Health care workers can text NYFRONTLINE to 741-741 to access 24/7 emotional support services
<https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/home>

New York State Long Term Care Ombudsman Program COVID-19 Response

- In an effort to assist the public and relieve anxieties, the New York State Ombudsmen Offices have done systematic outreach to inform the public of its continued services, including letters to the editors of local newspapers
<https://www.syracuse.com/opinion/2020/04/long-term-care-ombudsman-still-accepting-concerns-about-patient-care-your-letters.html>

New York State Office of Mental Health

- Released a resource on managing anxiety in an anxiety-provoking situation, including guidance and tips for individuals receiving mental health services; parents, including parents of children with pre-existing anxiety disorders; caregivers of older adults; and mental health providers
<https://omh.ny.gov/omhweb/guidance/covid-19-managing-stress-anxiety.pdf>
- Outlines health care decisions process for individuals who are intellectually disabled and Medical Orders for Life Sustaining Treatment (MOLST) to comply with New York State public health law for end-of-life decisions for individuals with developmental or intellectual disorders
 - Links to resources and information to expedite the process for obtaining urgent approval for end-of-life decisions for individuals who are intellectually disabled
 - Instructions on how to get urgent access and training to utilize the electronic MOLST and access the MOLST electronic database
<https://molst.org/covid-19-guidance>

New York University (NYU)

- On the Front Line – COVID-19 Initiatives outlines ways to manage different facets of life under the spread of the COVID-19 virus, ranging from how to combat racially driven bias and fake news to how to increase cooperation and better manage stress
<https://www.nyu.edu/life/safety-health-wellness/coronavirus-information/nyu-responds-to-covid-19/on-the-frontline.html>

Office of the Governor Andrew Cuomo, New York Department of Health

- Governor Andrew Cuomo has ordered all nursing home staff to be tested at least twice a week for the virus and has barred hospitals from discharging any COVID-19 patient to a nursing facility until that individual tests negative for infection. If a nursing home is deemed unable to provide proper treatment and support for a recovering resident, that person is to be transferred to the care of the state, which has ample hospital bed capacity for such patients
<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-health-coronavirus-usa/new-york-steps-up-coronavirus-protections-for-nursing-home-residents-idUSKBN22M001>
- Due to a statutory change which the legislature approved at the beginning of March, Governor Cuomo can change or suspend laws unilaterally, so long as doing so assists the state in its disaster response
- With respect to nursing homes, individuals who do not work for boards of elections are now allowed to help residents of nursing homes fill out absentee ballots
<https://www.politico.com/states/new-york/albany/story/2020/03/19/every-law-and->

State Actions for COVID-19 Management and Response

14. Resources Continued

[regulation-suspended-by-cuomo-during-the-coronavirus-crisis-1268180](#)

- Issued guidance and recommended practices to assist nursing homes in processing the removal of decedents

https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/system/files/documents/2020/04/doh_nhresidentdeaths_041920.pdf

Soho MD

- Soho MD psychiatrists offer virtual and text messaging support via telehealth. The company has begun using the Lief Smart Patch to monitor a patient's heart rate and breathing patterns to identify anxiety levels in real time. This information can be downloaded into the electronic health record (EHR)

<https://mhealthintelligence.com/news/a-nyc-telemental-health-clinic-uses-mhealth-to-gain-new-insights-into-care>

North Carolina (NC)

Division of Health and Human Services, Office of the Governor Roy Cooper

- The Governor's COVID-19 task force created a website specific to long term care facilities and a long term care facility toolkit

<https://www.ncdhhs.gov/divisions/public-health/covid19/long-term-care-facilities>

<https://www.ncdhhs.gov/divisions/public-health/covid19/covid-19-guidance#long-term-care-facilities>

Duke University, DukeHealth Population Health Management

- DukeHealth Population Health Management offers a website and updates for skilled nursing facilities

<https://phmo.dukehealth.org/covid-19-snf>

- Offers frequent updates to the COVID-19 for skilled nursing facilities materials repository

<https://duke.app.box.com/v/COVID19forSNF>

Ohio (OH)

Canterbury Rehab

- Lessons learned from the COVID-19 outbreak at Canterbury Rehab useful for pre-surge planning on stocking STAT boxes, cohorting, testing, personal protective equipment supplies, and tracking

https://www.ohiomda.org/aws/OMDA/asset_manager/get_file/439319/lessons_learned.pdf

Ohio (OH)

LeadingAge

- Website on helping residents stay connected during the pandemic created a warrior spirit while preparing for COVID-19 cases
 - State actions shared for preparing staff for “normalizing the experience” of caring for residents who are COVID-19 positive
 - Includes collaborative activities/drills performed in an effort to allay staff fears and elevate morale
- https://leadingage.org/helping-residents-stay-connected-during-pandemic?mkt_tok=eyJpIjoiWTJRNVpUSTRNR1F4WWprMilsInQiOiI0cGZzaWZNXC9LUkFvcGRUdkVMa1BxNzBPa2J0U1RiZ3loZys4VTRxbGZZb0lBU21jakg4azJ3YXRiekpKQjBxROlzbWNaeFFkaTh6VVVHK0hCeG0xR1Z1bmxMQ05pVU9SeEtnanI

14. Resources Continued

- Created a new technology that enables people to record remotely through a computer or a mobile device. Through StoryCorps Connect, participants can record conversations and instantly share them with the StoryCorps Archive and the American Folklife Center at the Library of Congress

https://www.leadingage.org/sites/default/files/SC_Connect_Toolkit_Organizations_OlderAdults.pdf?_ga=2.33962017.1076603912.1589991326-147757919.1574109328

National Rural Health Association

- Offers COVID-19 resource toolkit for rural providers and health systems
- Toolkit for rural providers is maintained and updated by rural health providers

<https://www.ruralhealthweb.org/programs/resources/covid-19-resources>

Office of the Governor Mike DeWine

- Governor DeWine's web page announces any new changes to public policy as it pertains to COVID-19 and nursing homes
- Web page also directs visitors to Ohio Department of Health's COVID-19 website that provides the latest data on COVID-19
- Some of this data does specifically pertain to Ohio's nursing homes

<https://governor.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/governor> (log in required)

Ohio Council for Home Care and Hospice

- Personal protective equipment (PPE) COVID-19 recommendations: PowerPoint presentations covering PPE strategies, optimization of supplies, and use and re-use protocols

<https://www.dropbox.com/s/gah35m6xfijutim/PPE%20PP%202.pptx?dl=0>

Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services

- Developed a free confidential call line to assist those struggling with mental health issues stress and mental fatigue (including health care workers)

<https://mha.ohio.gov/Health-Professionals/About-Mental-Health-and-Addiction-Treatment/Emergency-Preparedness/Coronavirus/COVID-CareLine>

Ohio Department of Health

- Created a call center to answer questions about COVID-19 that operates from 9 AM to 8 PM daily, including weekends. Call center staff includes licensed nurses and infectious disease experts available to answer questions and provide accurate information about COVID-19, how to protect yourself and prepare for COVID-19 in your community, its risk to the public, and the state's response

<https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/covid-19/resources/COVID-19-Call-Center>

- COVID-19 education/resource allocation
- Allocation of personal protective equipment from the federal government
- Education/resources made available through website
 - The What Workers and Employers Can Do to Manage Workplace Fatigue During COVID-19 web page outlines general strategies that workers and employers can use to manage workplace fatigue and work safely
 - Other topics include but are not limited to: face mask decontamination, emergency preparedness, preserving personal protective equipment, lab testing, trauma-informed

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/managing-workplace-fatigue.html>

14. Resources Continued

care, exposure management, medication use, care for critically ill, infection control practices, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention resources, World Health Organization resources, and health care provider stress

<https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/covid-19/healthcare-providers-and-local-health-districts/for-healthcare-providers/for-healthcare-providers>

- STRIVE: The new Strategies for Preventing health care acquired infections (HAIs) training is the latest of 11 new infection control training courses. These courses are part of the new STRIVE curriculum intended for the infection prevention team, hospital leaders, clinical educators, nurse and physician managers, environmental services managers, all patient care staff, and patient/family advisors
https://odh.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/odh/know-our-programs/healthcare-associated-infections/news-and-events/newcourse_strive
- Infectious Disease Control Manual: The Infectious Disease Control Manual (IDCM) is a project of the Ohio Department of Health State Bureau of Infectious Diseases created with the assistance of the Bureau of Health Services and the Bureau of Public Health Laboratories. It is designed to be a reference for local health departments, hospitals, laboratories, and physicians in providing information about infectious diseases from a public health perspective, including prevention, control, and reporting of suspected and diagnosed cases
<https://odh.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/odh/know-our-programs/infectious-disease-control-manual/infectious-disease-control-manual>
- Avoiding Scams - COVID-19 Checklist: Scammers are trying to monopolize on the fear and uncertainty that COVID-19 has brought to so many
<https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/covid-19/checklists/english-checklists/avoiding-scams-covid-19-checklist>
- Shelters and other congregate housing sites can use this checklist to ensure they are following COVID-19 precautions. The directions are clear and succinct
<https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/covid-19/checklists/english-checklists/special-populations-shared-living-facilities-covid-19-checklist>
- Created a resource that discusses Ohio workplaces COVID-19 requirements for cloth masks or face coverings and addresses FAQs pertaining to the topic (i.e., proper way to wear, available face coverings, why to wear face coverings, and types of face coverings)
<https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/covid-19/resources/general-resources/cloth-masks-or-face-coverings-in-the-workplace>

Ohio Department of Health, Department of Veterans Services

- Issued directive limiting nursing home visits, except in end-of-life cases
https://content.govdelivery.com/attachments/OHOOD/2020/03/12/file_attachments/1398815/ODH%20Order%20on%20Nursing%20Homes.pdf

Ohio Department of Health, Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities

- Created pre-surge planning toolkit for providers of long term services and supports (LTSS) that includes concept diagrams and tools related to COVID-19
- Provides resources to support evaluation and re-evaluation of needs and capacity to address future quarantines of people who have been exposed, isolation of people who are tested or presumed positive, and planning for critical shortages of personal protective equipment (PPE)
<https://dodd.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/dodd/providers/all-provider-resources/resource-ltss-pre-surge-planning-toolkit>

14. Resources Continued

The Academy of Senior Health Sciences

- A listing of various links/guides/educational resources regarding COVID-19 in relation to nursing home resident care
<http://www.seniorhealthsciences.org/covid.shtml>

Oklahoma (OK)

Be a Neighbor Organization

- Ready.Help.Go. is a volunteer readiness program to connect Oklahomans to volunteer opportunities in their communities
<https://beaneighbor.ok.gov/s/volunteer-page>

Care Providers of Oklahoma

- Links to resources on developments, guidelines, protocols, policies, and tools for partners and providers
<https://www.careoklahoma.com>

LeadingAge of Oklahoma

- Offers detailed provider updates four to five times a week
- Hosts daily conference calls with national association for provider updates
- Provides triage for provider concerns, such as personal protective equipment, staff, etc.
<https://leadingageok.org>

Oklahoma Assisted Living Association

- Posts recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to prepare for COVID-19 in long term care facilities and nursing homes
- Provides additional interim guidance for infection prevention and control
- Hosts links to COVID-19 resources, such as a COVID-19 checklist, sample letters to families, volunteers and friends, and CDC and Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services updates
<https://www.okala.org>

Oklahoma Association for Home Care & Hospice

- Hosts Oklahoma COVID-19 call center: (877)215-8336
- Offers resources for information, direction, and recommended health protocols based on Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidelines
<https://oahc.com>

Oklahoma Hospice & Palliative Care Association

- Home page includes COVID-19 resource links and training
<https://ohpca.wildapricot.org>

Oklahoma Mental Health and Aging Coalition

- Offers website resources, educational materials, and videos for health care staff
<http://omhac.org>

Oklahoma Pharmacists Association

- Offers technical assistance, education, and website resources (login required)

14. Resources Continued

<https://www.opha.com/resources>

Oklahoma State Department of Health (OSDH)

- OSDH COVID-19 website created for additional notifications and resources
- Assistant Deputy Commissioner James Joslin, Service Director Mike Cook, and the Long Term Care Survey Division are holding weekly conference calls with providers and stakeholders

Oklahoma Long-term Care Ombudsman

- Provides aid and resources to residents and families during the COVID-19 crisis
<http://www.okdhs.org/services/aging/Pages/ombudsman.aspx>

Oklahoma State University Center for Health Sciences

- Updates Extension for Community Healthcare Outcomes (ECHO) to keep health care providers updated as the situation changes, including the state surge plan, extensive resources and tools and State of the State COVID-19 updates every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday
<https://health.okstate.edu/echo/covid-19-project-echo.html>

Oregon (OR)

Oregon Health Authority

- In Oregon, there are many players working to support nursing homes and the greater Oregon health care community. State actions identified include:
 - Developed a toolkit for nursing homes
<https://www.oregon.gov/oha/PH/DISEASES/CONDITIONS/COMMUNICABLE/DISEASE/HAI/Pages/Long-Term-Care-Facilities.aspx>
 - Has an excellent COVID-19 web page with resources
<https://www.oregon.gov/oha/PH/DISEASES/CONDITIONS/DISEASESAZ/Pages/COVID-19.aspx>

Pennsylvania (PA)

Pennsylvania Health Care Association

- Nursing home association representing most nursing homes in Pennsylvania
- Developed long term care facilities preparedness assessment for COVID-19 (recommended to do before any cases identified in their facility) in checklist format for:
 - Visitor restrictions
 - Steps to conduct contact tracing for COVID-19 case
 - Procedure for contact tracing if case of positive test for COVID-19 is a staff person, along with form to document date of exposure, location, and notes
 - Developed three documents on Knowledge Center Reporting Resource Guides to assist nursing homes answer state requests for information (long term care capacity reference guide, long term care manually reporting capacity reference guide, and COVID-19 electronic export information data set long term care)
 - Contracted with Pennsylvania Patient Safety Organization to provide guided technical assistance

Pennsylvania Patient Safety Authority

- Hosts overview, key data, and statistics on COVID-19 web page
- Offers educational tools and resources

14. Resources Continued

- Maintains Twitter feed on COVID-19 alerts and issues
http://patientsafety.pa.gov/pst/Pages/COVID-19_Coronavirus/hm.aspx

Rhode Island (RI)

Rhode Island Department of Health

- Completed modified infection control assessment and response (ICAR) at all high-risk sites to prioritize support
https://hcaportal.org/portal/uploads/ICAR_BLANK.pdf
- Self-Symptom Checker assists individuals, including nursing home personnel, in determining if/when they should seek medical care, available in English, Spanish, and Portuguese
<https://covidselfcheck.ri.gov/welcome>

South Dakota (SD)

Neighborhoods at Brookview, Brookings, SD

- Facility purchased two tandem wheelchair bicycles that allow residents to participate in bike riding and social engagements in a one-on-one or small-group setting, giving the residents a unique and innovative experience to enjoy the freedom of the outdoors. Each bicycle has a passenger seat at the front, while the cyclist sits behind the passenger. The passenger seat can be quickly released from the cyclist seat and used as a normal wheelchair if needed. Funding was provided through the innovation grant program from the South Dakota Department of Human Services Division of Long Term Care Services and Supports
<https://www.dakotanewsnow.com/content/news/Brookings-senior-living-center-purchases-tandem-wheelchair-bicycle-570922371.html>

South Dakota Department of Health (SD DOH), South Dakota Association of Healthcare Organizations (SDAHO), South Dakota Health Care Association (SDHCA)

- All 104 South Dakota nursing home facilities received four iPads to provide an increased opportunity for residents to communicate with family and friends and connect to social media and the internet. Additionally, the iPads can be used in telehealth visits. The South Dakota Department of Health, South Dakota Association of Healthcare Organizations, and the South Dakota Health Care Association partnered in securing Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) funding for the project
<https://sdaho.org/2020/05/21/south-dakota-nursing-homes-receive-ipads>

South Dakota State Entities

- March 2020 - Assisted every nursing home with infection control assessment and called every nursing home
- Called all nursing homes and assisted living centers week of April 13, 2020 to see how they were doing, what their needs were, and to answer questions
- South Dakota is first state with a hydroxychloroquine statewide clinical trial to help fight COVID-19
<https://news.sd.gov/newsitem.aspx?id=26644>

14. Resources Continued

Tieszan Memorial Home

- Tieszan Memorial Home used its social media page to inform community and resident's families about COVID 19 mass testing. The intent was for families and residents' representatives to have an opportunity to read the information prior to the personal call to obtain consent for the testing. This provided time for representatives to gather any questions they might have, ultimately contributing to a quicker process in obtaining consents

Walworth County Care Center - Selby, SD

- Walworth County Care Center is among several nursing homes in South Dakota where staff are "dancing in the halls" to bring joy and music to residents
- Both residents and staff look forward to the activity and bringing some silliness, fun, and laughter to the day
<http://tinyurl.com/y726xvyh>

Tennessee (TN)

Tennessee Health Care Association (THCA)

- Published resources for consumers
<https://www.thca.org/for-consumers/resource-center>
- Created guidance for facilities facing personal protective equipment shortages
<https://www.thca.org/for-consumers/resource-center>
- Posted toolkit for facility visitor screening
<https://www.thca.org/files/2020/03/FHCA-COVID-19-Visitor-Screening-Toolkit.pdf>

Texas (TX)

Texas Health and Human Services Commission, Department of State Health Services

- Provide targeted online resources for nursing facilities, including webinars, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) resources, Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) resources, Occupational Safety and Health Administration guidance, mental health support lines for Texans, and provider letters

Utah (UT)

Alzheimer's Association

- Provided guidance on managing patients with dementia as these patients can be difficult in complying with safety guidelines, such as maintaining a safe distance

Utah Department of Health

- The state of Utah has modified its Provider Order for Life-Sustaining Treatment (POLST) form, waiving the requirement of in-person signing of documents and using national tools and guidance to ensure providers are prepared for end-of-life discussions and processes
https://health.utah.gov/hflcra/forms/POLST/POLSTStatic_Revised2-16.pdf

Vermont (VT)

Vermont State Department of Health

- Modified infection control assessment and response (ICAR) programs in all facilities to prioritize support

State Actions for COVID-19 Management and Response

14. Resources Continued

- A COVID-19 hotline is available for providers to call with questions about screening patients for testing

<https://www.healthvermont.gov/response/coronavirus-covid-19/long-term-care-and-group-living-settings>

Virginia (VA)

Virginia Department of Health (VDH)

- Virginia Project ECHO is offering a Just-in-Time COVID-19 Learning Series, covering testing, telehealth, personal protective equipment (PPE), isolation, cohorting, medical management, and vulnerable populations
- Through the Virginia's Governor COVID-19 Long Term Care (LTC) Task Force, an LTC Facility Playbook to Access Resources to Support COVID-19 Outbreak Response was created. The playbook serves as a resource for how to access various staffing, supplies, infection control expertise, and other resources to support response to COVID-19 outbreaks
<https://www.vdh.virginia.gov/content/uploads/sites/182/2020/05/VirginiaLongTermCareFacilityTaskForceCOVIDPlaybook.pdf>

Virginia Department of Health (VDH), Virginia Hospital & Healthcare Association (VHHA)

- VHHA and VDH are partnering to allocate support and resources to long term care facilities in Virginia. The initiative is facilitated through the Virginia Healthcare Emergency Management Program (VHEMP) and Russell Phillips and Associates (RPA). Facilities will receive infection prevention and control education and training related to personal protective equipment (PPE), testing, clinical practice, and staff support
<https://www.vhha.com/communications/vhha-and-vdh-partner-to-support-long-term-care-facilities-during-covid-19>

Virginia Hospital Alerting & Status System (VHASS)

- VHASS, an emergency management partnership between the Virginia Department of Health and the Virginia Hospital & Healthcare Association, created an online COVID-19 resource center and Virginia COVID-19 surveillance data
- A long term care VHASS daily situation report, posted daily, includes the number of nursing home residents with reported/confirmed COVID-19, number of residents pending confirmation, and current personal protective equipment (PPE) needs in nursing homes
- Regional health care coalitions are the point of contact for skilled nursing facilities, dialysis centers, and hospitals that need PPE
<https://vhass.org/regional-info>

Washington (WA)

Nursing Homes

- Nursing homes have distributed iPads and laptops to residents to facilitate virtual communication and visits with families
- Nursing homes have provided end-of-life and advance care planning education for all staff, using national tools and guidance to ensure providers are prepared for end-of-life discussions and processes
- Infection preventionists from the local public health districts and state departments of health are providing consultation to nursing homes

14. Resources Continued

West Virginia (WV)

West Virginia Department of Health and Human Services, Bureau of Public Health

- Developed a COVID-19 website
<https://dhhr.wv.gov/COVID-19/Pages/default.aspx>
 - Outlines provider responsibility for reporting requirements for suspected or confirmed cases of COVID-19
 - Offers general information on West Virginia resources:
 - Resuming elective surgeries
 - Medical transport guidelines
 - Emergency department recommendations
 - Long term care (LTC) guidelines
 - Homeless service providers
 - Criteria and resources for specimen collection and testing specific to West Virginia
 - Death reporting guidelines for COVID-19
- Includes long term care (LTC) facility outbreak resources:
 - Guidelines for COVID-19 outbreaks in LTC facilities:
 - Contact precautions
 - Hand hygiene observation tool
 - Long term care facility outbreak resources toolkit
 - Home care resources:
 - Home care and self-isolation guidance for people with suspected or confirmed COVID-19
 - Guidance on cleaning when caring for ill person in the home

West Virginia Health Care Association, West Virginia Department of Health and Human Services Bureau for Public Health Division of Infectious Disease Epidemiology

- Developed guidelines for COVID-19 outbreaks in long term care facilities
<https://dhhr.wv.gov/COVID-19/Pages/default.aspx>
- Covers following topics:
 - Outbreak definitions
 - Preventing an outbreak
 - What to do if case detected
 - Measures to control outbreak
 - Lab testing
 - Health care personnel exposure
 - Management of residents returning from hospitalization or new admissions
 - Criteria to remove residents from isolation
 - Criteria for returning to work for exposed health care workers
 - Environmental cleaning and disinfection
 - Implement environmental infection control
 - Employee screening tool
 - Visitor screening tool
 - Nursing facility transfer

Wisconsin (WI)

LeadingAge

- Sends daily email for members and business partners highlighting practical tools for staff

State Actions for COVID-19 Management and Response

14. Resources Continued

conversations

- Focus on staff morale and facilitating challenging conversations and a motivational quote called “Thought for the Day,” in addition to sharing many resources and training opportunities

Wisconsin Department of Health Services

- Shared resources specific to memory care individuals and ways to keep residents engaged, such as through the use of technology
<https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/ltc.htm>

Wyoming (WY)

Wyoming Department of Health Regional Long Term Care Ombudsman

- Proposed to use civil penalties monies to purchase iPads for nursing homes’ statewide use for residents to keep in contact with families and loves ones
- Wyoming Department of Health contact person is Lee Alter at lee.alter@wyogov.com

Wyoming Community Protection Initiative Team

- Community Protection Initiative team will support the Wyoming Department of Health with the following:
 - Data systems and data analysis
 - Prevention, infection control, and containment of infections in long term care facilities and psychiatric facilities
 - Community mitigation and infection prevention and control among tribal communities
 - Case identification and contact tracing<https://health.wyo.gov/cdc-team-deployed-to-wyoming-to-supplement-existing-efforts>

Wyoming Office of the First Lady Jennie Gordon, Wyoming Department of Health Aging Division

- Collaborating to send cards, letters, and notes to residents of skilled nursing facilities and senior centers
- First Lady Jennie Gordon produced a video explaining the concept
<https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=519102808788094>

15. SCREENING/VISITORS

California (CA)

California Department of Health AFL

- The California Department of Public Health AFL provides resources and guidance for skilled nursing facilities on preparing for COVID-19 and a toolkit for management of exposures and recognized cases in skilled nursing facilities titled “Preparing for COVID-19 in California Skilled Nursing Facilities”

<https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CHCQ/LCP/CDPH%20Document%20Library/AFL-20-25-Attachment-01-SNF-Checklist.pdf>

Florida (FL)

Florida Agency for Health Care Administration

- Early decisive action for visitor, staff, and vendor screening
- Imposed statewide visitor restriction at all long term care facilities
- Issued emergency orders
http://ahca.myflorida.com/docs/DEM_ORDER_NO.20-006_In_re_COVID-19_Public_Health_Emergency_Issued_March_15_2020.pdf
- Shared Florida Health Care Association tool kit with screening resources
https://www.fhca.org/facility_operations/coronavirus

Georgia (GA)

Office of the Governor Brian P. Kemp

- Issued guidance, in consultation with Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, to help mitigate the spread of COVID-19 in nursing homes to include symptom screening for visitors, staff, and residents, and separate staffing teams, facilities, and units for COVID-19 positive/unknown and COVID-19 negative residents
<https://gov.georgia.gov/press-releases/2020-04-03/gov-kemp-provides-overview-federal-guidance-mitigate-covid-19-nursing>

Hawaii (HI)

Office of the Governor David Ige

- Directed residents not to visit nursing homes
<https://governor.hawaii.gov/newsroom/latest-news/proper-use-of-covid-19-tests-imperative-there-is-a-current-shortage-of-hand-sanitizers-and-toilet-paper-in-hawaii-in-part-because-of-the-publics-over-reaction-to-covid-19-the-hawai>

Illinois (IL)

Illinois Department of Public Health

- Issued COVID-19 safety guidance for nursing home patients and employees (e.g., screening and reporting symptoms), as well as visitation restrictions on March 20, 2020
<http://www.dph.illinois.gov/topics-services/diseases-and-conditions/diseases-a-z-list/coronavirus/long-term-care-guidance>

Indiana (IN)

Indiana State Department of Health (ISDH)

- Restricted temporary leaves of absence for non-essential services
- Requires long term care facilities to screen all persons entering facilities
https://www.coronavirus.in.gov/files/IN_COVID-19_LTC_04.29.20.pdf
- Allows visitation (including family) for end of life situations
https://www.coronavirus.in.gov/files/IN_COVID-19%20end%20of%20life%204.17.20.pdf
- Released the Outdoor Family Visitation at long term care facilities on June 3, 2020; followed CMS and CDC guidance restricting visitation, except in end-of-life circumstances. These restrictions, however, are not without consequences. Recognizing that isolation has serious impacts on the health and wellbeing of residents in these facilities, Indiana State Department of Health released guidance that facilities must follow to allow for outdoor visitation with residents
https://www.coronavirus.in.gov/files/IN_COVID-19%20outdoor%20visit%206.3.20.pdf
- Long Term Care Facility Outdoor Visitation Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) - Released June 5, 2020
 - Contains frequently asked questions regarding the guidance released on June 3, 2020 regarding outdoor visitation
https://www.coronavirus.in.gov/files/Outdoor%20Visitation%20FAQ_6.5.20.pdf
- Essential Family Caregivers in Long Term Care Facilities - Released update on June 5, 2020
 - Recognizing the critical role family members and other outside caregivers (e.g., friends, volunteers and private personal caregivers) often have in the care and support of residents, it is recommended that long term care facilities (LTCFs) consider designating as Essential Family Caregivers (EFCs) those family members and other outside caregivers who, prior to visitor restrictions, were regularly engaged with the resident at least two or more times per week to provide companionship and/or assist with activities requiring one-on-one direction
 - The goal of EFCs is to help high-risk residents who are missing care previously provided by a loved one or outside caregiver
https://www.coronavirus.in.gov/files/IN_COVID-19%20EFCs%206.5.20.pdf

Iowa (IA)

Office of the Governor Kim Reynolds

- Ordered health care facilities to screen staff for COVID-19 symptoms
<https://governor.iowa.gov/press-release/gov-reynolds-signs-new-proclamation-continuing-state-public-health-emergency-2>

Michigan (MI)

Office of the Governor Gretchen Whitmer

- Issued temporary restriction on entry into health care facilities, including nursing homes, on March 10, 2020
https://www.michigan.gov/whitmer/0,9309,7-387-90499_90705-524360--,00.html

Michigan State University

- Using information from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the World

State Actions for COVID-19 Management and Response

15. Screening/Visitors Continued

Health Organization (WHO), Sophia Tessema and a group of community advocates developed a web-based questionnaire to self-screen for COVID-19

<https://www.covidscreening.org>

<http://humanmedicine.msu.edu/News/2020/04.13.20-Online-Screening-Tool.htm>

Minnesota (MN)

Minnesota Department of Health

- Temporarily banned all visitors to nursing homes; exceptions made for family members under special circumstances, such as critically ill or end of life patients and parents of minor children
- Implemented enhanced respiratory surveillance in long term care facilities to rapidly identify any potential outbreaks of COVID-19 – March 17, 2020 (Department of Health Order)

Montana (MT)

Office of the Governor Steve Bullock

- Issued restrictions to suspend visitation for all visitors and non-essential health care providers, except as for certain compassionate care situations (e.g., end of life)

http://governor.mt.gov/Portals/16/2020-03-15_Governor_Directive_re_COVID-19.pdf

New Mexico (NM)

New Mexico Department of Health

- Temporarily banned all visitors to nursing homes; exceptions made for family members under special circumstances, such as critically ill or end of life patients via Public Health Order
- Guidelines for long term care (LTC) facilities which include cancellation of group activities; active screening of residents; and screening of staff at beginning of shift for fever and respiratory symptoms

New York (NY)

Office of the Governor Andrew Cuomo, New York State Department of Health

- Due to a statutory change which the Legislature approved at the beginning of March, Governor Cuomo can change or suspend laws unilaterally, so long as doing so assists the state in its disaster response
 - With respect to nursing homes:
 - The requirements for assessing patients entering long term care have been relaxed. So have the requirements for screening patients entering nursing homes
 - A regulation requiring patients entering nursing homes to have gotten approval from a physician first is no longer effective, and initial patient visits with individuals receiving home care no longer need to occur immediately
- <https://www.politico.com/states/new-york/albany/story/2020/03/19/every-law-and-regulation-suspended-by-cuomo-during-the-coronavirus-crisis-1268180>
- Mandated nursing homes not allow visitors due to the coronavirus pandemic
- <https://news.wbfo.org/post/new-york-state-mandates-nursing-homes-ban-visitors-due-coronavirus>

Greater New York Hospital Association

- Pilot Hospital Visitation Program: For a two-week time period, sixteen New York State hospitals piloted a program allowing visitors to visit hospitalized family members. Visitors are screened for temperature and symptoms and are required to wear personal protective equipment (PPE).

State Actions for COVID-19 Management and Response

15. Screening/Visitors Continued

Visits have a specified time limit

<https://www.gnyha.org>

<https://www.nytimes.com/2020/05/19/nyregion/coronavirus-ny-nyc-live-news.html>

North Carolina (NC)

North Carolina Division of Health and Human Services, Office of the Governor Roy Cooper

- The North Carolina Division of Health and Human Services is working directly with the Governor's COVID-19 task force to coordinate preparation and response to the pandemic
- Governor Cooper has signed a series of Executive Orders, beginning March 10, 2020
https://files.nc.gov/governor/documents/files/200327_FAQ-SAH-Order_FINAL.pdf
- No. 131 on April 9, 2020, addressed even more restrictions for nursing homes
- During the three-phase re-opening plan, nursing homes are to remain restricted to visitors through phase 1, 2, and 3
<https://files.nc.gov/governor/documents/files/NC-3-PHASE-PLAN.pdf>

Ohio (OH)

Ohio Department of Health, Department of Veterans Services

- Issued directive limiting nursing home visits, except in end of life cases
https://content.govdelivery.com/attachments/OHOOD/2020/03/12/file_attachments/1398815/ODH%20Order%20on%20Nursing%20Homes.pdf

Ohio Department of Health

- Screening Employees for COVID-19: COVID-19 Information for Employers and Employees
<https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/covid-19/resources/general-resources/Screening-Employees-for-COVID-19>

Oklahoma (OK)

Governor's COVID-19 Solution Task Force and Response Team

- Transformed Oklahoma's 2-1-1 hotline into a tool for Oklahomans to call and receive screening support for COVID-19
<https://coronavirus.health.ok.gov/governors-actions>

Pennsylvania (PA)

Pennsylvania Health Care Association (PHCA)

- Nursing home association representing most nursing homes in Pennsylvania
<https://www.phca.org/covid19>
- Developed long term care facilities preparedness assessment for COVID-19 (recommended to complete before any cases identified in their facility) in checklist format for:
 - Education, monitoring, and screening of all residents
 - Document active screening of residents every 12 hours for COVID-19 symptoms
 - Screen staff prior to shift for symptoms of COVID-19

South Dakota (SD)

Avera Prince of Peace Retirement Community

- Avera Prince of Peace Retirement Community created a visitation booth that separates residents from their visitors by a piece of plexiglass. Family members can contact the nursing home to reserve a time for the booth

State Actions for COVID-19 Management and Response

15. Screening/Visitors Continued

<https://www.dakotanewsnow.com/content/news/Avera-Prince-of-Peace-Retirement-Community-opens-visitation-booth-571012061.html>

Tennessee (TN)

Tennessee Health Care Association (THCA)

- Created resources for consumers, including guidance for facilities facing personal protective equipment (PPE) shortage and a PPE request form
<https://www.thca.org/for-consumers/resource-center>
- Posted toolkit for facility visitor screening
<https://www.thca.org/files/2020/03/FHCA-COVID-19-Visitor-Screening-Toolkit.pdf>

Texas (TX)

State of Texas

- All licensed long term care facilities must screen all individuals entering the facility, including staff and newly admitted residents
- Based on federal guidance, Texas restricts non-essential visitors to nursing homes and encourages the use of alternate means of communication between residents and family members and friends

Washington (WA)

Office of the Governor Jay Inslee

- Issued nursing home restrictions by Governor's Proclamation for visitation to nursing homes, including maintenance of visitors logs for 30 days, screening staff and volunteers, and quarantine of residents (slated to end April 9, 2020)
https://www.governor.wa.gov/sites/default/files/proclamations/20-06%20Coronavirus%20%28tmp%29.pdf?utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery

Washington State Department of Health

- Issued guidelines for long term care (LTC) facilities, which include:
 - Cancellation of group activities
 - Active screening of residents
 - Screening of staff at beginning of shift for fever and respiratory symptoms
 - Restriction of visitors and non-essential health care personnel except for compassionate care
<https://www.doh.wa.gov/Portals/1/Documents/1600/coronavirus/COVID-19GuidanceforLong-TermCareFacilities.pdf>

West Virginia (WV)

West Virginia Health Care Association

- In conjunction with West Virginia Department of Health and Human Services Bureau for Public Health Division of Infectious Disease Epidemiology, developed guidelines for COVID-19 outbreaks in long term care facilities
<https://dhhr.wv.gov/COVID-19/Pages/default.aspx>
 - Employee screening tool
 - Visitor screening tool

II. TELEHEALTH

Alaska (AK)

Alaska State Hospital and Nursing Home Association

- Developed a telehealth quick start toolkit for all care settings

Arizona (AZ)

United Telehealth Corporation

- This corporation facilitated telehealth technician visits for several of the post-acute facilities to test residents (free of charge) for transfer clearance to assisted living during this pandemic. They have also been utilized by physicians and staff in skilled nursing facilities

The University of Arizona

- The Arizona Telemedicine Program is conducting virtual webinars to help providers, such as nursing homes, across the state quickly strengthen their telemedicine programs
<https://telemedicine.arizona.edu>
- This group created a position dedicated to coordinating telehealth visits. This person arranges a time with the provider and nurse. This helps the nurse stay on task by not having to coordinate these efforts

California (CA)

Los Angeles Jewish Home

- Student pharmacists are conducting Zoom meetings with residents to review medication regimens and to provide education to residents about their medications. The student pharmacists are also providing medication regimen review to prescribers to potentially deprescribe medications. This best practice is a win-win, including active learning for the student pharmacists and social interaction for the residents

Georgia (GA)

Office of the Governor Brian P. Kemp

- The Governor's Office of Planning and Budget, working with the Department of Community Health, has requested that Georgia Health Information Network (GaHIN) provide certain information as part of the State's COVID-19 response and re-opening planning
- It is likely that the information request will be on a continuing basis during the COVID-19 public health emergency
- The data elements requested at this time include the following: admits, discharges, transfers (ADT); death reporting; electronic lab reports (ELR); and emergency management services (EMS)
- Provided member updates on Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) privacy and other Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, and agency information
<https://www.gahin.org>

II. Telehealth Continued

Hawaii (HI)

Office of the Governor David Ige

- A COVID-19 Project ECHO (Extension for Community Health Outcomes) education and training series is provided weekly. All long term care and assisted living facilities are invited. The series topics include: donning/doffing personal protective equipment (PPE), repurposing PPE, COVID-19 testing procedures, resident isolation, staff quarantine, and telemedicine in long term care
<https://geriatrics.jabsom.hawaii.edu/geriatrics>
<https://geriatrics.jabsom.hawaii.edu/ltss>

Iowa (IA)

Iowa Pharmacy Association (IPA)

- The IPA Long Term Care and Senior Care Advisory Committee advises the IPA Board of Trustees and staff on issues including short cycle dispensing, geriatric therapy updates, and changing federal rules related to long term care (LTC) and senior care. The committee includes about 25 IPA members that hold differing roles across LTC practice – such as dispensing only to facilities, serving as consultants to facilities, serving as geriatric clinic-based pharmacists, etc. The group recently discussed sharing sample data-sharing agreements to sign with a LTC facility to gain access to the electronic health record (EHR) for consulting documentation. Its members endorse access to facility e-charts. Facilities have also used FaceTime/Skyping services to observe medication passes, helping to ensure these requirements still occurred when a pharmacist was not present in the facility
<https://www.iarx.org>

Michigan (MI)

Michigan Office of the Governor

- Theoria Medical x 5-Star Telemed is providing telemedicine in long term care facilities with 24-hour physician access, including on-demand behavioral health access, comprehensive assessment training for nursing using mobile equipment (remote auscultation, tele-ultrasound, 12-lead electrocardiogram (EKG) test, wireless spirometry, blood glucose, and blood pressure capability). A multi-camera device allows for wound assessment and integration of patient centered communication (PCC) with electronic health records (EHR) for interoperability
<https://www.5startelemed.com>

Missouri (MI)

Show-Me ECHO (Extension for Community Healthcare Outcomes)

- Launched a COVID-19 ECHO. ECHO is a best-practice method for transferring appropriate specialty knowledge to non-specialist clinicians, such as primary care providers in rural areas. A multidisciplinary expert team, led by the State's Department of Health and Senior Services director and including university physicians, uses video and teleconferencing to share the latest information, answer questions, and discuss management of patient cases presented by participants
<https://showmeecho.org/clinics/covid-19>

Nevada (NV)

Various Nursing Homes

- Many nursing homes have turned to the use of technology and telehealth. Attending physicians and psychologists are using telehealth for patient visits, with some using tablets attached to an

II. Telehealth Continued

IV pole to accommodate a meaningful telehealth visit between patient and doctor

New Jersey (NJ)

Exchange Physical Therapy Group

- This provider was able to implement telehealth visits quickly to ensure that patients continued to receive rehabilitation services. The practice has maintained 10 percent of its patients via telehealth, continuing to employ six out of 11 therapists at about 40 percent of their pre-COVID-19 visit volume. The practice plans to continue telehealth availability for patients who are unable to get to the clinic
<https://www.exchangephysicaltherapygroup.com/blog/how-one-pt-clinic-adopted-telehealth-in-response-to-covid-19-by-webpt>

New Mexico (NM)

University of New Mexico

- The University of New Mexico resumed its Nursing Home ECHO (*Extension for Community Healthcare Outcomes*) focusing on staff resilience and trauma, advanced care planning, and care transitions and coordination

New York (NY)

New York State Department of Health, LeadingAge NY

- Developed COVID-19 response recommendations for nursing homes
 - Scheduled a call-in phone conference with the medical director specifically for families to provide information on COVID-19 and to give families the ability to ask questions in real time
 - Initiated an e-mail newsletter for families with pictures and news about what the facility is doing to help keep residents busy and occupied during this time
 - Set up an automated phone call system to make mass calls to families with updates
<https://www.leadingageny.org>

New York State Department of Health

- Issued comprehensive guidance regarding use of telehealth, including telephonic services during the COVID-19 State of Emergency
- New York State Medicaid will reimburse telephonic assessment, monitoring, and evaluation and management services provided to members in cases where face-to-face visits may not be recommended and it is appropriate for the member to be evaluated and managed by telephone
- Telephonic communication will be covered when provided by any qualified practitioner or service provider. All telephonic encounters documented as appropriate by the provider would be considered medically necessary for payment purposes in Medicaid Fee for Service (FFS) or Medicaid Managed Care
https://www.health.ny.gov/health_care/medicaid/program/update/2020/no05_2020-03_covid-19_telehealth.htm#general

Ohio (OH)

Ohio Department of Health (ODH)

- Launched a telehealth line for the general public to ask questions about how to protect themselves and prepare for COVID-19 in their community. The ODH COVID-19 call center staffers operate the center from 9 AM to 8 PM daily, including weekends. Call center staff

II. Telehealth Continued

includes licensed nurses and infectious disease experts. They are available to answer questions and provide accurate information about COVID-19, its risk to the public, and the state's response

<https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/covid-19/resources/covid-19-call-center/covid-19-odh-call-center>

Ohio Guidestone

- The expansion of telehealth outreach during pandemic provided increased access to patients. Since the stay-at-home order, Guidestone has expanded its services throughout the state and increased access to people with substance abuse disorders. It transitioned its in-person visits to telephone contact. Monthly call volume is normally 850 calls; this jumped to 11,000 calls in March and 27,000 calls in April
<https://katu.com/features/mental-health-matters/ohio-guidestone-expands-telehealth-services-during-covid-19-pandemic-05-27-2020>

Oregon (OR)

Various State Agencies/Stakeholders

- In Oregon, there are many players working to support nursing homes and the greater Oregon health care community. State actions identified include:
 - Larger corporations have supported facilities with the implementation of telehealth practices to conduct visits whenever appropriate

Virginia (VA)

Mid-Atlantic Telehealth Resource Center

- Created and posted resources online for rapidly deploying telehealth in post acute care and long term care settings
<https://www.matrc.org/matrc-telehealth-%20resources-for-covid-19>

Our Lady of Peace Retirement Community, University of Virginia Health System (UVA)

- Upon having residents test positive for COVID-19, Our Lady of Peace Retirement Community partnered with its community academic health system, UVA, to use Project ECHO (Extension for Community Healthcare Outcomes) to provide support and clinical consultations to the facility. Using this system, the facility accessed geriatricians, a pulmonologist, and an infection preventionist. Each morning, the facility conducts virtual rounds with a medical team comprised of a geriatrician, pulmonologist and primary care physician via ECHO to review the clinical status of COVID-19-positive residents
<https://uvahealth.com/services/telemedicine/echo>

West Virginia (WV)

Stonerise Health Care Corporation

- Stonerise Healthcare Corporation owns a chain of nursing homes in West Virginia and has developed its own reporting page related to COVID-19 with scheduling tele-visits with residents for family members
<http://www.stonerisehealthcare.com/coronavirus-update>

Wisconsin (WI)

Wisconsin Department of Health Services, Superior Health Quality Alliance

II. Telehealth Continued

- Provides coordinated facilitation of tele-Infection Control Assessment and Response (ICAR) for nursing homes in counties with larger number of COVID-19 cases in partnership with the Division of Public Health, Division of Quality Assurance (State Survey Agency,) and Superior Health Quality Alliance
- Cross train surveyor staff to assist with tele-ICAR completion

III. ORGANIZATIONS AVAILABLE TO ASSIST NURSING HOMES

NATIONAL GUARD

Alabama (AL)

Alabama National Guard

- The Alabama National Guard, under the leadership of Governor Kay Ivey, will assist designated nursing homes in the state response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Specially trained and equipped National Guard teams will sanitize and disinfect nursing homes that have COVID-19 positive residents and/or employees and will train staff on the techniques of donning and doffing personal protective equipment

Arkansas (AR)

Arkansas Department of Human Services Office of Long Term Care

- The Arkansas Office of Long Term Care reached out to the Quality Improvement Organization (QIO) in their state to refer a nursing home that was not performing well

California (CA)

Los Angeles County Emergency Operations Center

- Developed exemptions for emergency medical technicians (EMTs) to function as nurses' aides to increase the staffing at the five impacted skilled nursing facilities in the county and engaged the National Guard to provide ancillary support
https://content.govdelivery.com/attachments/CALACOUNTY/2020/04/22/file_attachments/1433947/COVID-19%20Update_04.22.20.pdf

Colorado (CO)

Colorado National Guard

- Colorado Governor Jared Polis initiated a COVID-19 Innovation Response Team with a multi-pronged response, including increased testing, tailored social-distancing measures, a reinforced health care system, and a bolstering of state epidemiological resources
- The Colorado National Guard was deployed to test residents and staff at three of the state's largest nursing homes, even though outbreaks had not been reported at the facilities

District of Columbia (D.C.)

District of Columbia Hospital Association

- *Journey Live gives you guided meditation to help reduce your stress and anxiety, increase focus and productivity and find balance. Access to the App is free for the remainder of the year*
https://mcusercontent.com/67e7a773996f97d87b3be7633/files/86437965-69b3-4452-9f16-47cae08871a6/DCHA_Journey_Meditation.pdf

Washington D.C. National Guard

- The Washington D.C. National Guard COVID-19 Task Force Able Response Team completed a convoy pick-up of medical ventilators in Delaware and delivered them to the D.C. Department of

III. Organizations Available to Assist Nursing Homes

National Guard Continued

Health as part of its COVID-19 response

<https://www.airforcetimes.com/news/coronavirus/2020/04/21/latest-national-guard-covid-19-update-troop-count-at-38700>

Florida (FL)

Florida Hospital Association (FHA), Florida Health Care Association (FHCA)

- FHA and FHCA are hosting 21 regional Acute/Post-acute Collaborative (APAC) calls. The regions are in alignment with the QIN-QIO community coalitions. The objective of these calls is to bring providers and local stakeholders together and to increase collaboration and communication, share challenges, best practices, data, support, and resources. The calls began on June 10, 2020 and will continue every four to six weeks with topics based on the communities' needs. The call schedule can be viewed on the FHCA website
<https://www.fhca.org>

Office of the Governor Ron DeSantis

- Ordered National Guard to test for COVID-19 in nursing homes and ordered strike teams" to help patrol for asymptomatic carriers as outbreaks occurred
<https://thehill.com/changing-america/well-being/prevention-cures/492987-florida-governor-orders-national-guard-to-test>

Georgia (GA)

Office of the Governor Brian P. Kemp

- Activated and deployed National Guard to long term care facilities with COVID-19 cases to implement infection control protocols and enhanced sanitation methods to mitigate exposure
<https://gov.georgia.gov/press-releases/2020-04-01/kemp-carden-deploy-soldiers-fight-covid-19-long-term-care-facilities>

Georgia Healthcare Facility Regulation Department

- Georgia Healthcare Facility Regulation Department worked closely with the Department of Public Health, the Georgia Health Care Association, and the National Guard to stay abreast of COVID-19 activity and its impact on centers while remaining vigilant for highest quality of care for the residents in Georgia
- Surveyors connected with long term care organizations to collect information related to COVID-19 and coordinated with the Georgia National Guard to develop a system for collection of COVID-19 data. The data collection platform was released daily at 2 PM, replacing a previous report from the Governor's Office
<https://dch.georgia.gov/divisionsoffices/healthcare-facility-regulation>

Georgia National Guard, Department of Public Health, Department of Community Health

- Developed a testing strategy in response to Governor Kemp's recommendations to support broader testing and to prioritize testing of vulnerable populations and health care professionals
- Ultimately, this strategy will expand to include private or commercial labs. Approximately 200+ nursing homes have invited teams into their centers for cleaning and sanitizing, staff education, and assistance with testing
<https://www.ghca.info/Files/National%20Guard%20Test%20Team%20for%20LTCF%20Process.pdf>

III. Organizations Available to Assist Nursing Homes

National Guard Continued

Indiana (IN)

Indiana National Guard

- Received training in personal protective equipment (PPE), self-decontamination, and patient transfer to assist their communities, including nursing homes
- Indiana National Guard as part of COVID-19 – long term care update released in ISDH newsletter dated June 16, 2020
 - The National Guard is assisting with the delivery and pick up of testing supplies from facilities
<https://www.in.gov/isdh/files/ltcnews432020.pdf>

Iowa (IA)

Iowa Long Term Care Ombudsman

- Provides individual nursing home support for advocacy of needs at resident level
- Supports residents and families with concerns
- Encourages nursing homes to reach out to the Quality Improvement Organization, the Department of Inspections and Appeals (DIA), and the Iowa Department of Public Health (IDPH) for support
- Website houses multiple resources
<https://www.iowaaging.gov/educational-resources/covid-19-older-iowans>

Office of the Governor Kim Reynolds

- TestIowa.com was launched to help officials target areas of opportunity and help them make decisions about reopening the state
- New testing sites were set up to test an additional 3,000 people a day
- First responders and medical personnel were prioritized for testing
- Iowa National Guard troops were mobilized to respond to COVID-19 outbreaks at the state's meat packing companies. Troops helped deliver testing equipment to packing plants, transported kits to labs, and helped packing plants with cleaning
- A "testing strike team" was sent to Tama County in response to an outbreak at a long term care facility. All staff at the facility were tested for COVID-19
- Daily briefings were held, state resources were activated, and equipment, personnel, technical assistance/guidance, supplies, and essential services were deployed to provide assistance in the form of traffic control, security, vaccines, transportation, and other emergency response and recovery capabilities
- The Governor's COVID-19 website included information for long term care facilities that link to Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) resources
<https://coronavirus.iowa.gov>

Maryland (MD)

Health Facilities Association of Maryland

- Maryland COVID-19 Crisis Support Program provides free, confidential mental health support to employees of Maryland's long term health care facilities impacted by the COVID-19 outbreak
<https://www.hfam.org/covid-19>

Office of the Governor Larry Hogan

- Maryland Governor Larry Hogan launched statewide strike teams on April 7, 2020, comprised of

III. Organizations Available to Assist Nursing Homes

National Guard Continued

the National Guard, state and local health department representatives, emergency medical service clinicians, and doctors and nurses from local hospital systems. The strike teams were intended to provide on-site medical triage, supplies, and equipment to overburdened nursing homes in order to slow the spread of the virus among Maryland's most vulnerable population <https://governor.maryland.gov/2020/04/07/governor-hogan-activates-statewide-strike-teams-for-nursing-homes-enacts-order-to-shut-down-unsafe-facilities>

Massachusetts (MA)

Massachusetts National Guard, The Broad Institute of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Harvard

- Performed one-time testing at nursing homes, rest homes, and assisted living facilities for residents and staff. Mobile testing sites served eligible public safety personnel, including, emergency medical services and state active duty National Guard personnel by appointment <https://www.mass.gov/doc/mobile-testing-program-overview/download>

Partners Healthcare

- Digital Technology to Curve COVID-19 Pandemic: Organization offers implementation guidance and policy insights relevant to the use of virtual care tools to meet the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic
 - The Virtual Visits program depicts a real time video interaction between a provider and patient
 - The Virtual Consults program depicts a real time video interaction between a referring provider and the expert teleconsultant
 - The eVisits program depicts a secure text-based exchange between a provider and patient<https://www.nature.com/articles/s41746-020-0279-6>

Nevada (NV)

Nevada National Guard

- Partnered with the Nevada Department of Health Bureau of Health Care Quality and Compliance to visit skilled nursing facilities for spot checks on infection prevention and control (cleanliness of facility, adequate staffing, and personal protective equipment)

New Jersey (NJ)

Health Care Association of New Jersey

- Statewide organization providing updates on most current and authoritative information on COVID-19 relevant to facilities in New Jersey <https://www.hcanj.org/covid-19-information>

New Jersey Department of Health Infection Control Assessment Response Team (ICAR)

- New Jersey Department of Health ICAR team provides one-hour virtual consultations to nursing homes to support infection prevention and control (IPC) activities based on the nursing home's completed tele-ICAR assessment https://www.nj.gov/health/cd/documents/topics/NCOV/COVID_Tele_ICAR_Assess_Tool.pdf

New Jersey National Guard

- Set up an alternate care site in the Atlantic City Convention Center, which provided 250 beds for

III. Organizations Available to Assist Nursing Homes

National Guard Continued

non-COVID-19 patients

<https://www.airforcetimes.com/news/coronavirus/2020/04/21/latest-national-guard-covid-19-update-troop-count-at-38700>

New Mexico (NM)

New Mexico National Guard

- Assist in decontamination of facilities where a COVID-19 infection has occurred
- Specimen collection and transport from testing sites statewide
- Staffing alternative care sites

New York (NY)

Greater New York Health Care Facilities Association

- Current updates and resources relevant to facilities in the metropolitan New York City (NYC) area
<https://gnyhcfa.org/covid-19>

New York Department of Health

- New York City (NYC) COVID-19 Care Network: A volunteer network of support for essential workers, their families, and any uninsured New Yorkers
- Front line essential workers and their families have free access to support from a volunteer mental, emotional, or spiritual care professional
<https://nyccovidcare.org>

New York State Department of Health, National Guard COVID-19 Response

- National Guard provided medical staff at Javits Center and New York City hospitals and testing sites
- New York Air National Guard pararescue airmen, who are trained as emergency medical technicians, assisted in city hospitals
<https://www.airforcetimes.com/news/coronavirus/2020/04/21/latest-national-guard-covid-19-update-troop-count-at-38700>

New York State Health Facilities Association

- Statewide organization providing updates on most current and authoritative information on COVID-19 relevant to facilities in New York
<https://www.nyshfa-nyscal.org/advocacy-updates>
- Organizing tech volunteers to assist in providing technology, data driven products to provide resources for the COVID-19 response; over 6,500 experts have volunteered and tools have already been created
<https://www.ny.gov/programs/new-york-state-covid-19-technology-swat-team>

North Carolina (NC)

North Carolina Army National Guard

- The North Carolina Army National Guard supported North Carolina Emergency Operations with planning and predictive analysis. Soldiers also worked with the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services to help prepare vital, in-demand medical equipment for shipment to supply centers across the state

III. Organizations Available to Assist Nursing Homes

National Guard Continued

North Dakota (ND)

North Dakota Department of Health

- North Dakota National Guard and the Southwestern District Health Unit developed the “Operation Drive-in” pilot project to provide testing in two rural communities (Amidon and Gladstone) on a Saturday and Sunday. The organizations used a reverse 911 message to notify community members of testing
<https://www.governor.nd.gov/news/burgum-announces-pilot-project-expand-covid-19-testing-and-improve-tracing-slow-spread-virus>
- The National Guard assisted with pick-up and delivery of lab specimens and assisted with clean-up of nursing homes if needed

Ohio (OH)

Ohio Health Care Association

- The following steps are being implemented to ramp up COVID-19 testing of residents and staff of nursing homes to better prevent the spread of the disease among some of Ohio’s most vulnerable residents
<https://www.ohca.org/docs/documents/5963/Testing%20in%20Nursing%20Homes%20Final%2005.26.2020.pdf>
- Statewide organization providing updates on most current and authoritative information on COVID-19 relevant to facilities in Ohio
https://www.ohca.org/covid19_1

Pennsylvania (PA)

Pennsylvania National Guard

- Delaware County nursing homes used Pennsylvania National Guard medics and nurses to assist with staffing shortage due to COVID-19 outbreak
<https://www.inquirer.com/health/coronavirus/delaware-county-broomall-nursing-coronavirus-national-guard-20200418.html>

Puerto Rico (PR)

Puerto Rico National Guard

- Screened passengers at airports, saving the medical professionals for health care settings. Medical schools collaborated with the Puerto Rico National Guard during the screenings to allow health care workers to focus on providing care at hospitals and skilled nursing facilities

Rhode Island (RI)

CareLink, the RI Foundation

- CareLink and the RI Foundation are sponsoring a new show, viewable on a TV, called “Room with a View,” to help reduce social isolation for older adults. This engaging TV show is designed just for older adults. It will include activities for mind, body, and spirit. The show is to bring the activities directly to patient and resident rooms
<https://agefriendlyri.org/carelink-and-ri-foundation-partner-to-produce-evidence-based-tv-programming-for-older-adults>

Rhode Island Office for Healthy Aging

- Rhode Island stakeholders, including the Rhode Island Office of Healthy Aging and the Rhode Island Executive Office of Health and Human Services, LeadingAge RI, the Rhode Island Health

III. Organizations Available to Assist Nursing Homes

National Guard Continued

Care Association, and Rhode Island Assisted Living Association, put together a survey to learn about the technology needs of residents in nursing homes and assisted living facilities so that they can apply for grant money

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdilhFZ-y91pdcnWaz4ag6zYO9KpeiZKOUWJPhUFombiqrkIQ/closedform>

Texas (TX)

Office of the Governor Greg Abbott

- On May 5, 2020, at the Governor's direction, the Texas Military Department activated 250 Texas National Guard personnel in support of nursing facilities, with additional activations to meet mission demand. These Guardsmen formed teams to disinfect COVID-19 contaminated care facilities. Teams are based across Texas and are serving the eight Emergency Medical Task Force regions

<https://gov.texas.gov/news/post/governor-abbott-expands-business-openings-in-texas-announces-surge-response-teams-to-combat-covid-19>

West Virginia (WV)

Office of the Governor Jim Justice

- Issued orders on April 17, 2020 for testing of all nursing home residents and workers by the West Virginia National Guard. These orders were issued before any reported nursing home outbreaks. These tests began in early April 2020 when at least one resident or staff member at a facility tested positive for COVID-19

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