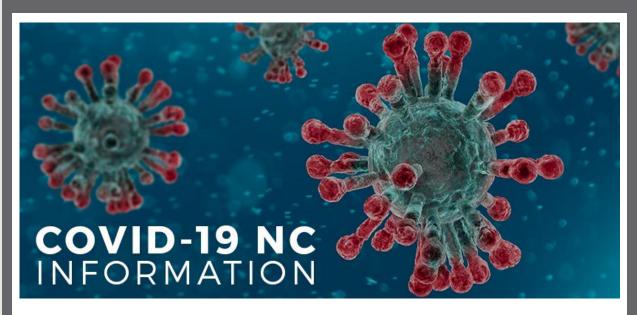
APRIL 9, 2020



TARGETED RATE ENHANCEMENT DURING COVID-19 STATE OF EMERGENCY

Vaya Health is committed to supporting providers as we work together to ensure our members continue to receive services during the COVID-19 pandemic.

To assist providers in retaining residential staff and supporting increased operational costs due to COVID-19, Vaya is increasing rates by 10% for the following Medicaid residential services effective March 10, 2020. This rate increase will be applied to each facility's standard rate and will remain in effect through April 30, 2020.

Vaya will re-evaluate the rate each month until the COVID-19 State of Emergency is lifted.

Read more: Memo to Vaya Network Residential Providers (April 9, 2020)

WEBINAR ON THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC AND LEGISLATIVE AND REGULATORY CHANGES: A BEHAVIORAL HEALTH PROVIDER'S LEGAL GUIDE Monday, April 13, 2020, 11 a.m. – 12 p.m.

Benchmarks, in partnership with the Parker Poe law firm, is sponsoring a free webinar for behavioral health providers to help them navigate the rapidly changing legal and regulatory landscape. The COVID-19 pandemic has triggered dramatic legislative and regulatory action and altered the way healthcare is being delivered. Combined, these effects of the pandemic have upended the status quo for healthcare providers across the country. As employers and heavily regulated entities, healthcare providers are faced with unique challenges in this new landscape.

Webinar recording: Register for the webinar even if you can't attend live. The webinar sponsor will send you the recording to view later.

Who should attend: Suggested attendees are behavioral health providers, agency and facility owners, managers, administrators, compliance staff, human resource directors and in-house counsel.

More information and registration are available here.

NCCDD RELEASES COVID-19 RELIEF FUND/MINI GRANTS

The N.C. Council on Developmental Disabilities (NCCDD) has voted to invest \$75,000 into a relief fund for one-time, time-limited projects to assist in filling gaps in services or activities that people with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities (IDD) are experiencing due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Funds are open to N.C. nonprofit agencies and other N.C. community-based organizations that provide supports to people with IDD and their families who are affected by the statewide COVID-19 response. Funds must be used to meet the needs of people with IDD and their families and promote engagement with peers, alleviate anxiety due to social distancing and/or increase positive shared experiences.

More information is available here.

PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT (PPE) GUIDANCE FOR PROVIDERS

Due to ongoing shortages of personal protective equipment (PPE) and a limited supply in North Carolina, the State Emergency Response Team has issued guidance on the use of PPE. This includes alternate use and potential strategies to assist when supplies are running low. The guidance document is available here.

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