

FROM: Thomas McAlvanah

DATE: May 7, 2020

Good evening,

Here are today's headlines:

The meeting began with questions over testing plans and protocols. These are still being discussed with DOH who will be creating a roll out plan. A number of parents related their concerns over testing and tracing which OPWDD noted.

On behalf of the Provider Associations, John Kemmer asked OPWDD to respond to questions over the costs of PPE, hazard or incentive pay and the intensified cleaning of environments that have been raised. In numerous venues over the last several weeks. John directly asked about the 6.2% FMAP that has come to the State and whether OPWDD was able to realize a share for providers' increased expenses. Kevin Valenchis spoke to the State's fiscal plan and its challenges. While there was a pause, Paul Francis from the Governor's office spoke to the question. He pointed out that the increased FMAP is bringing the State about \$1.5 B in extra revenue. While positive, the state's budget shortfall will continue to press up against all spending decisions. He stated that there appears to be a way to make the Appendix K Retainer Days work. The Providers will hear more tomorrow at the meeting with DOH and OPW.

A questions from a parent continued to press the question about the continued viability of the voided community, but it was clear that additional Federal help was needed to assist the State to make all of its increased expenditures.

Additional conversation continued on topics from the reopening of programs and what they will look like, too soon to speculate; transition services for individuals graduating from school age programs, an existing bottleneck that needs attention at the DDRO level and at ACCESS. Questions on Self Direction were held for today.

Data: Tamika Black will be presenting the data report for OPWDD at future meetings.

As of 5/6/20, there were 2,323 individuals with I/DD who have tested positive for the Coronavirus. Over 1,900 of those individuals live in certified residences. Sadly, 354 individuals who have tested positive have passed away. The rest of the data is consistent with the past issuances; 90 % of the cases are in the downstate region; two-thirds of the deaths are male; 83% of the deceased were over 50. The presence of co-morbid conditions was also consistent.

More to come as we hear from DOH and OPW tomorrow

Tom