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

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

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

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

**Provide a face mask to the resident** exhibiting symptoms

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

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

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

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

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

How can we protect our staff and other residents?

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

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

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

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

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

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

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