



# DISTRICT HEALTH DEPARTMENT NO. 2

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## MEDIA RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

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### District Health Department No. 2 Continues Working with Area Long-Term Care Facilities

District Health Department No. 2 (DHD2) has established a team working to address the needs of those living in congregate settings including long-term care facilities. Our goal is to ensure these facilities have access to the support and resources they need to keep their clients, residents, and employees safe. While this has been an ongoing process in our communities, one of the current priorities is to support community efforts to align with Executive Order 2020-50 that Governor Whitmer issued on April 15, 2020, which states “Due to the nature of the care provided in long-term care facilities and the vulnerable status of their residents, the risk of harm posed by a single positive case of COVID-19 to the entire facility—residents and staff—is inordinately high.”

Denise Bryan, Health Officer for DHD2 states “Many of these facilities face unique challenges as they serve high-risk and vulnerable populations, often in close quarters. Our team aims to provide these organizations with guidance and support in infection control, isolation, and quarantine measures, to ensure testing is quickly available when needed, and to provide support for their unique needs including decision points such as admissions, discharges, and transfers.”

As COVID-19 continues to impact our area, DHD2 is working closely with the community, including congregate living facilities, to ensure the very best protection of their staff and patients. This work is most effective when community partners work together to plan for collaborating and implementing any quick steps needed for isolation measures as well as local hospitals providing support for needed testing and care. Our local facilities, along with many long-term care providers throughout the nation, are working hard to battle the COVID-19 pandemic and we want to support them in providing the very best care for their residents.