

October 13, 2020

RE: Update to COVID-19 ICPC/ICJ Out of State requests

To Whom It May Concern:

On June 15<sup>th</sup>, 2020 Governor Scott issued an extension of the State of Emergency through July 15, 2020 and on June 5<sup>th</sup>, he issued Addendum 17 which modifies quarantine restrictions (see attached executive [order](#)). Based on this information, I wanted to update the guidance regarding incoming out of state placements, effective immediately. Requests must adhere to the following conditions:

**Residential Placements:**

- ICPC residential program packets must include a completed Vermont ICPC COVID-19 Screening Form (see attached). Approval will not be given for placement without completion of this form.
  - No out of state child/youth may be placed in any Vermont residential program without prior ICPC approval.
  - ICPC residential program considerations for approval will include the screening form to be completed, the child/youth not having had contact with anyone testing positive for COVID-19 in the past 14 days, the children/youth is not testing positive for COVID-19 and/or experiencing COVID-19 symptoms.
  - As a reminder, programs have a right to refuse admission if that child/youth is not a good match for their program/milieu and ICPC residential approvals are only good for 30 days.
- Any child/youth who is being placed in a Vermont residential program and will be traveling from counties with 400 or fewer active cases of COVID-19 per million, please reference the travel and quarantine guidance to be found at the ACCD site (Vermont Agency of Commerce and Community Development for cross state travel information- <https://accd.vermont.gov/covid-19/restart/cross-state-travel>).
- Children/youth coming from other counties will be quarantined for 14 days (see attached Executive Order Addendum 7). If, during the quarantine period, if that child/youth does not have symptoms of COVID-19 on or after day 7 they can be tested at one of the pop-up testing sites. Upon receipt of a negative test result, the child/youth can end the quarantine period, as long as they continue to have no symptoms.
- During the period of quarantine, if that child/youth becomes symptomatic, Vermont ICPC, RLSI (Residential Licensing and Special Investigations Unit) and the Specialized Services Unit will be notified.
- Any out of state child/youth placed in a Vermont residential programs who exhibit COVID-19 symptoms will immediately isolate the child/youth and immediately notify Vermont ICPC, RLSI and the Specialized Services Team & follow the Vermont Department of Health Recommendations and follow up with their medical provider.

- Please follow link to Vermont Department of Health *COVID-19 What is isolation, quarantine and self observation?* document for guidance around quarantine.  
[https://www.healthvermont.gov/sites/default/files/documents/pdf/COVID-19-chart-observation-isolation-quarantine\\_final.pdf](https://www.healthvermont.gov/sites/default/files/documents/pdf/COVID-19-chart-observation-isolation-quarantine_final.pdf)
- Programs will follow any other relevant Vermont Department of Health recommendations.

**ICPC foster care, kinship care, parent placements and public adoptions:**

- Starting July 15, 2020 Vermont DCF will resume in person Face to Face contact with children and families.
- Home visits for ICPC home study requests will resume starting on July 15, 2020.
- All prior ICPC approvals are now being conditioned. The condition being that services must be in place prior to placement of the child/youth. The sending state will contact the Vermont Designated Mental Health Agency, <https://mentalhealth.vermont.gov/individuals-and-families/designated-and-specialized-service-agencies>, to make sure appropriate services will be in place prior to the placement of that child/youth in Vermont. Documentation of this service provision will need to be provided to VT ICPC prior to placement.
- Children/youth traveling from counties with 400 or fewer active cases of COVID-19 per million, please reference the travel and quarantine guidance to be found at the ACCD site (Vermont Agency of Commerce and Community Development for cross state travel information- <https://accd.vermont.gov/covid-19/restart/cross-state-travel>).
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- If that child/youth becomes symptomatic during the quarantine period, Vermont ICPC, the local supervising office and the sending state ICPC office is to be notified.
- Any out of state child/youth placed in a Vermont home who exhibits COVID-19 symptoms will immediately be isolated. Vermont ICPC, the local supervising office and the sending state ICPC office are to be notified immediately. Families are to follow up with their medical provider.
- Please follow link to Vermont Department of Health *COVID-19 What is isolation, quarantine and self observation?* document for guidance around quarantine.  
[https://www.healthvermont.gov/sites/default/files/documents/pdf/COVID-19-chart-observation-isolation-quarantine\\_final.pdf](https://www.healthvermont.gov/sites/default/files/documents/pdf/COVID-19-chart-observation-isolation-quarantine_final.pdf)
- Vermont schools have re-opened. Each school district has offered options of hybrid learning and full remote learning.
- Vermont childcares *were permitted* to reopen on June 1<sup>st</sup> but many did not, which will likely impact families whose ability to care for a child hinges on available child care.
- On March 13, 2020 the Vermont Governor issued a travel ban for all state employee non-essential travel.
- Starting 3/18/2020 I will be teleworking until further notice.

If you have any questions about this, please contact me at 802-735-6104.

Thank you,

*Trissie Casanova, LICSW*

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