


 Newsletter

March 27, 2019

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## Community Care Foster Family Home Program



Aloha CCFFH Operators,

Coronavirus (COVID-19)

CTA is distributing this information on behalf of the Office of Health Care Assurance.

Regular newsletters will be sent to address concerns about the Coronavirus also known as COVID-19. Please be patient. They are developed with making sure the answers are relevant and factual.

**If you have a question or concern please email it to [covid19@comties.com](mailto:covid19@comties.com).** We will gather a list of frequently asked questions and try to answer them to best of everyone's ability.

We have a list of questions that will be addressed from the webinar that was held by MedQuest on 3/23/20 as well as ones that have been coming into the CMA and CTA offices. Answers will be in forthcoming newsletters as soon as possible.

Please understand that some of your questions may not have immediate answers since this virus is uncharted territory. All departments are working as diligently as possible to try and answer questions and develop protocols as quickly as possible while trying to protect the health, safety and welfare of all residents within reason and recommendations made by the CDC while carefully considering all options available at the time.

Here are the answers we can give you today.

### **CMA and CTA VISITS**

This newsletter is to let you know that all CMA and CTA RN personnel have been deemed essential at this time and face to face visits will continue. Visits can be unannounced by CMA RNs and will be unannounced by CTA RNs. If any CMA or CTA RN is refused entry, the CCFFH will be cited.

All RNs will utilize all standard precautions and infection control measures being recommended by the CDC. Social distancing of 6 ft will be implemented whenever possible. Masks will not be worn as they are not recommended at this time unless someone is infected or taking care of someone who is infected. Please see the last newsletter for recommended precautions.

### **Reporting infections**

If a home has had anyone who travelled in the past 14 days outside of the state, had exposure to someone who was infected or has someone who is in the home that is infected, you must inform the client's CMA immediately. This includes HHM and other caregivers. CMAs and CTA will be tracking any COVID-19 reported infections.

Please let any visiting RN know prior to coming into the home about any known infections so that additional pre-cautions can be taken if necessary.

All changes in client conditions are supposed to be reported to the CMA within 24 hours always. Should a client experience a fever, cough or shortness of breath these symptoms are to be reported immediately to CMA



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Our website address to find forms, information and helpful tools:

<http://comties.com/HIforms.html>

OHCA website for posted surveys

<http://health.hawaii.gov/ohca/inspection-reports/>

staff.

### **VISITORS - Family and Friends**

The information in the last newsletter stands. Please follow the guidance given in that newsletter including putting up signs which can be found

at: <http://comties.com/HIforms/CCFFH%20News%20Letter%20Archive/March%202020%20Newsletter.pdf>

Visitors are not being restricted at this time. CCFHHS are not considered congregate areas and are not the same environment as larger scale residential care homes, nursing homes or assisted living facilities.

It is still recommended that they be screened and this includes CMA and CTA RNs. They are aware they can be screened and understand the importance of performing a screening. Ensure you properly disinfect your thermometers before asking them if they will take their temperature. They have the right to refuse if you do not have the proper sanitized equipment.

**While we understand your concerns, there is no reason to panic. We will get through this together as long as we all remain level headed, stay up to date, communicate concerns and are educated with the facts.**

Mahalo for your dedication,

Angel England, RN  
Operations Manager



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