

 <p>Children's Services Agency</p> <p>Communication Issuance</p> <p>20-061 Revised 8/17/20 Prior version obsolete</p>	Subject/Title	COVID-19 Response: Notification Requirements for COVID-19 Positive Individuals Updated
	Type	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Informational Memorandum <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Program Instruction <input type="checkbox"/> Policy Guide
	Issuance Date	8/18/20
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	Due to	N/A
Distribution	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CSA Central Office Managers/Staff <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MDHHS BSC and County Directors <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MDHHS Juvenile Justice Managers/Staff <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MDHHS Child Welfare Managers/Staff <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Native American Tribes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Office of Workforce Development and Training <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Agency Child Welfare Managers/Staff <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residential Abuse/Neglect Managers/Staff <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residential Juvenile Justice Managers/Staff <input type="checkbox"/> Other:	

This version replaces prior versions of communication issuance 20-061. Prior versions are obsolete.

Children placed into foster care may develop COVID-19 or symptoms consistent with COVID-19. The following provides guidance for Child Caring Institutions (CCIs) and foster care and juvenile justice caseworkers regarding notification and reporting requirements for a child with symptoms or diagnosed with COVID-19. If a child displays symptoms or tests positive for COVID-19, the following steps must be taken:

Youth Residing in a CCI

If a youth placed in a CCI begins to display symptoms or tests positive for COVID-19, the CCI must:

- 1) Contact the youth's medical provider.
- 2) Inform the youth's legal parent* of the youth's health status and the steps being taken to care for the youth.
- 3) Keep the parent informed of any pertinent updates to the youth's health, including worsening of symptoms, treatment recommendations, contact with physician, hospitalization, etc. Parents should be involved in decision-making, to the extent possible.
- 4) Inform other residents who had close contact with the youth of potential exposure if the youth tests positive.
- 5) Notify the parents of other residents (temporary court wards) who were exposed to the youth who tested positive.
- 6) Notify the local health department for further guidance.
- 7) Complete an incident report in MiSACWIS outlining symptoms or confirmation of testing, including any pertinent details regarding exposure, contact with physician, hospitalization, etc. A new incident report for a symptomatic youth should be completed when pertinent

updates to the youth's health become apparent (i.e. youth is hospitalized, is tested by physician, etc.).

**If the youth being referenced is a state ward, the Michigan Children's Institute (MCI) Superintendent must be notified in lieu of the youth's legal parent. For permanent court wards, the court of commitment must be notified.*

CCI Staff

When a CCI staff member tests positive for COVID-19, or is presumed positive based on exposure and symptoms, the CCI must:

- 1) Notify the Division of Child Welfare Licensing (DCWL) within the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS).
- 2) Notify the parents of each youth (temporary court ward) who was exposed by the staff person.
- 3) Ensure the staff member does not have contact with residents or staff until cleared by a healthcare provider.

Children Residing in Foster/Relative Care Home or Independent Living Arrangement

If a child or youth placed in a family home setting begins to display symptoms or tests positive for COVID-19, the primary foster care/juvenile justice caseworker or supervising agency must:

- 1) Contact the child/youth's medical provider.
- 2) Inform the child/youth's legal parent* of the youth's health status and the steps being taken to care for the youth.
- 3) Inform the child/youth's current caregiver prior to any placement or replacement.
- 4) Inform other residents in contact with the child/youth of potential exposure if the youth tests positive.
- 5) Notify the parents of other children in the home (temporary court wards) who were exposed to the youth who tested positive.
- 6) Complete an incident report in MiSACWIS outlining symptoms or confirmation of testing, including any pertinent details regarding exposure, contact with physician, hospitalization, etc. A new incident report for a symptomatic child/youth should be completed when pertinent updates to the youth's health become apparent (e.g., child/youth becomes hospitalized, is tested by physician, etc.).

**If the child/youth being referenced is a state ward, the MCI Superintendent must be notified in lieu of the legal parent. For permanent court wards, the court of commitment must be notified.*

Individuals in a Child's Foster/Relative Care Home or Independent Living Arrangement

If an individual in a child/youth's family home setting home tests positive, or is presumed positive based on exposure and symptoms, the caregiver must:

- 1) Contact the child/youth's medical provider. If the individual is over 18, advise the individual to contact their medical provider and assist if needed.
- 2) Inform the child/youth's legal parent of the youth's health status and the steps being taken to care for the youth. If the individual is over 18, determine with the individual if they would like their parent or other support persons notified and assist if needed.

Please see communication issuance 20-060 regarding placement/replacement and best practices related to caring for a youth with symptoms or a confirmed diagnosis of COVID-19.