



Allegheny County Department of Human Services Helpful Resources

Guidance on clients returning from the hospital for behavioral health residentially based care/services, youth congregate care, emergency shelters and other housing providers

- 1) Residential and housing program clients are admitted to psychiatric or medical hospitals for a variety of reasons. During the COVID-19 public health emergency, it is possible that these clients are exposed to the virus while in the hospital.
- 2) Most individuals who become very ill with COVID-19 and require hospitalization will recover. Individuals must be discharged once they are no longer ill enough to warrant ongoing medical admission, though they may still have mild COVID-19 symptoms.
- 3) Clients will need to return home to their residential or housing program after being discharged from the hospital. It is important that staff help manage not only the individual client's fears, but also the anxieties of all other housemates.
- 4) Individuals who return from the hospital and who are not showing symptoms of COVID-19 should be readmitted by the provider and isolated as necessary in accordance with this guidance provided in *Isolation Guidance for Behavioral Health Residentially Based Care/Services, Youth Congregate Care, Emergency Shelters and other housing providers*
- 5) Individuals who are discharged from the hospital after an admission for COVID-19 but have not yet been medically cleared to discontinue isolation should be treated with the same precautions as someone who tests positive but is never hospitalized. *See Isolation Guidance for Behavioral Health Residentially Based Care/Services, Youth Congregate Care, Emergency Shelters and other housing providers* for detailed guidance.