

**DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES**

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March 27, 2023

TO: REGIONAL CENTER EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS

SUBJECT: ENDING SPECIAL INCIDENT REPORTING FOR COVID-19 AND MPOX

Welfare and Institutions (W&I) Code section 4639.6 authorizes the Director of the Department of Developmental Services (Department) to issue directives to regional centers as the Director deems necessary to protect consumer rights, health, safety, or welfare, or in accordance with W&I Code section 4434. Regional centers must comply with any directive issued by the Director pursuant to this section.

Effective Monday, April 3, 2023, this Directive ends all COVID-19 and Mpx reporting requirements, through special incident reports and also about vaccination status information, by regional centers and service providers that previously were established by the Department. This Directive supersedes the directives issued September 27, 2022; March 10, 2022; May 22, 2020; and March 25, 2020 regarding reporting on these topics.

The federal public health emergency for Mpx ended on January 31, 2023. The state public health emergency for COVID-19 ended on February 28, 2023. The federal public health emergency for COVID-19 will expire May 11, 2023. Effective Monday, April 3, 2023, and in light of ongoing reporting requirements established for facilities licensed by the California Department of Public Health and California Department of Social Services, mandatory reporting to the Department through special incident reports regarding Mpx and COVID is ended. This includes reporting of COVID-19 and Mpx cases, hospitalizations and deaths specific to COVID-19. Reporting of vaccination status information also is ended. The SANDIS data system's ability to capture and report this information remains available for regional centers that wish to continue to use it.

Regional centers must share this Directive with all providers and are encouraged to share it with their staff. The Department is deeply grateful to the entire developmental services community for their longstanding efforts to protect the health of the individuals we serve. If you have any questions regarding this Directive, please contact Leslie Morrison at (916) 214-3706 or [leslie.morrison@dds.ca.gov](mailto:leslie.morrison@dds.ca.gov).

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Nancy Bargmann in black ink.

NANCY BARGMANN  
Director

cc: See next page.

**“Building Partnerships, Supporting Choices”**

Regional Center Executive Directors  
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cc: Regional Center Administrators  
Regional Center Directors of Consumer Services  
Regional Center Community Services Directors  
Association of Regional Center Agencies  
Brian Winfield, Department of Developmental Services  
Pete Cervinka, Department of Developmental Services  
Carla Castañeda, Department of Developmental Services  
Leslie Morrison, Department of Developmental Services  
Christine Gephart, Department of Developmental Services