**Subject:** URGENT MDHHS GUIDANCE: Actions for Caregivers of Older Adults During COVID-19
**Importance:** High

Good morning,

On Monday, March 23rd, Governor Whitmer instituted [Executive Order No. 2020-21](http://media.graytvinc.com/documents/Shelter%2Bin%2Bplace%2Border%2Bfrom%2BGov.%2BWhitmer.pdf) – Temporary requirement to suspend activities that are not necessary to sustain or protect life.

The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) advises Medicaid Providers to review “[Actions for Caregivers of Older Adults During COVID-19](https://www.michigan.gov/documents/coronavirus/Actions_for_Caregivers_of_Older_Adults_684619_7.pdf)”

Additionally, MDHHS advises plans to communicate this direction to contracted downstream entities, direct care workers, care managers, clients, and older adults, as defined in the guidance.  For communications to clients, older adults, and vulnerable individuals, please follow program specific protocols for communication materials including but not limited to, use of the appropriate reading level, font size, and accessibility standards.

Organizations should also review and implement individualized caregiver backup or contingency plans for clients, older adults, and vulnerable individuals as appropriate.

Questions can be directed to Provider Support at ProviderSupport@Michigan.gov, **and as always, please copy your MDHHS Contract Manager and myself.**

Thank you,

**Allison Repp**

Section Manager – MI Health Link

Integrated Care Division, Medical Services Administration

Michigan Department of Health and Human Services

Phone: 517 241 5781

E-mail: reppa@michigan.gov