



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
Department of Public Health  
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Governor

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Lieutenant Governor

**MARYLOU SUDDERS**  
Secretary

**MONICA BHAREL, MD, MPH**  
Commissioner

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## **ORDER SUSPENDING SERVICES PROVIDED IN CONGREGATE SETTINGS BY EOHHS DAY PROGRAMS**

On March 10, 2020, Governor Charles D. Baker declared a State of Emergency in the Commonwealth to respond to the spread of COVID-19. Additionally, on March 23, 2020, Governor Baker issued an emergency order requiring all businesses and organizations that do not provide "COVID-19 Essential Services" to close their physical workplaces and facilities to workers, customers, and the public. The Public Health Council has approved and authorized me to take such actions, incur such liabilities, and establish such rules, requirements, and procedures which are necessary to prepare for, respond to, and mitigate the spread of COVID-19 in order to protect the health and welfare of the people of the Commonwealth, consistent with the Governor's declaration.

Accordingly, having received that authorization from the Council and with the approval of the Governor, I issue the following Order:

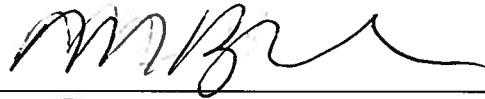
Effective Wednesday, March 25, 2020, all day programs overseen by agencies under the Executive Office of Health and Human Services shall cease to provide services in congregate settings. Programs subject to this order include but are not limited to the following organized by EOHHS Agency:

- Department of Developmental Services
  - Community Based Day Services
  - Employment Services
- Department of Public Health
  - Adult Day Health Programs
- Department of Mental Health
  - Clubhouses
- MassHealth
  - Day Habilitation Services
- Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission
  - Head Injury Centers/Brain Injury Day Programs

All programs subject to this order shall adopt alternative methods of delivering day program services where feasible, such as remotely or in a patient's, client's, or member's residence, in accordance with guidance published by the program's respective EOHHS oversight agency. Programs subject to this order must continue to comply with all applicable statutes, regulations, and guidance not inconsistent with this Order.

This Order shall remain in effect from March 25, 2020 until the State of Emergency is terminated by the Governor, or until rescinded by me, whichever shall happen first.

IT IS SO ORDERED



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Monica Bharel, MD, MPH  
Commissioner,  
Massachusetts Department of Public Health

March 24, 2020