



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND HEALTH SERVICES
Aging and Long-Term Support Administration
PO Box 45600, Olympia, Washington 98504-5600

August 23, 2022

ALTSA: AFH #2022-034
ALTSA: ALF #2022-030
ALTSA: CCRSS #2022-018
ALTSA: ESF #2022-026
ALTSA: ICF/IID #2022-018
ALTSA: NH #2022-047

MONKEYPOX UPDATE FROM WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Dear Administrator/Provider/Superintendent:

This letter is to notify you of information from the Washington State Department of Health (DOH) about the monkeypox virus (MPV).

ALL LONG-TERM CARE (LTC) SETTINGS

DOH is reminding all Adult Family Homes (AFH), Assisted Living Facilities (ALF), Nursing Homes (NH), Enhanced Service Facilities (ESF), Certified Community Residential Service and Support (CCRSS) programs, and Intermediate Care Facilities for Individuals with Intellectual Disabilities (ICF/IID) settings to:

- Be alert for people who have rashes and other symptoms consistent with MPV. Information about MPV symptoms can be found under the MPV [Signs and Symptom tab](#) on the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) webpage.
- Use the [infection prevention and control tools](#) on the CDC's webpage to prevent the spread of monkeypox
- Consider sharing with residents and clients information about [how it spreads](#).
- If you have any questions regarding monkeypox:
 - Contact your [local health jurisdiction](#) or
 - Refer to the [Washington State Department of Health frequently asked questions \(FAQ\)](#).

REPORTING MONKEYPOX CASES

AFH, ALF, NH:

- Monkeypox is immediately reportable to your [local health jurisdiction](#) upon suspicion of infection.
- In addition to local health jurisdiction notification, you are **required** to notify DSHS of suspected or confirmed MPV through the online portal at <https://www.dshs.wa.gov/altsa/residential-care-services/residential-care-services-online-incident-reporting> or through the complaint hotline at 1-800-562-6078.

ESF, CCRSS, ICF/IID:

- Providers are encouraged to work with their [local health jurisdiction](#) upon suspicion of infection.
- Beginning January 1st, 2023, ESFs will be included in the definition of “healthcare facility” under Chapter 246-101 WAC, Notifiable Conditions, rules. Beginning January 1, 2023, ESF will be required to report immediately upon suspicion of monkeypox or any other notifiable condition to their local health Jurisdiction.

Thank you for your continued commitment to resident health and safety. If you have any questions, please contact RCSpolicy@dshs.wa.gov

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mike Anbesse". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Mike Anbesse, Director
Residential Care Services

DSHS: “Transforming Lives”