

**DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES**

1600 NINTH STREET, Room 240, MS 2-13  
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814  
TTY (916) 654-2054 (For the Hearing Impaired)  
(916) 654-1897



March 25, 2020

**TO:** REGIONAL CENTER EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS, THE COURTS,  
DISTRICT ATTORNEYS, PUBLIC DEFENDERS, AND ALL OTHER  
INTERESTED PARTIES

**SUBJECT:** DEPARTMENT DIRECTIVE 03-032520: ADMISSIONS TO AND  
DISCHARGES FROM FACILITIES UNDER THE JURISDICTION OR  
CONTROL OF THE DEPARTMENT

Pursuant to Governor Gavin Newsom's Executive Order N-35-20 issued on March 21, 2020, the Director of the Department of Developmental Services (Department) issues this Directive regarding admissions to and discharges from the Porterville Developmental Center, the Canyon Springs Community Facility, and Stabilization, Training, Assistance, and Reintegration (STAR) homes under the jurisdiction and control of the Department.

Notwithstanding the Penal Code, the Welfare and Institutions Code, or any other statute or regulation, the Department is denying admission to and delaying discharge of all individuals, judicially or otherwise committed to the Porterville Developmental Center, the Canyon Springs Community Facility, and all STAR homes under the jurisdiction and control of the Department. This Directive is necessary to protect the health, safety and well-being for individuals already committed to the Department's facilities and the clinical, security and other staff at these facilities. Given the scope of the outbreak of COVID-19 in California and the difficulty in identifying infected individuals, this Directive is necessary to prevent the spread of COVID-19 into Department facilities to the detriment of current consumers and staff and to protect the general public health.

Nothing in this Directive prevents Department staff, regional center staff, and others from continuing to prepare for admissions to or discharges from a Department facility when it is medically safe and appropriate. For those individuals currently in active community transitional planning, the regional resource development project will continue to engage in conversations with the individual, regional center and identified community provider to ensure where feasible that such planning continues.

**“Building Partnerships, Supporting Choices”**

Regional Center Executive Directors  
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This Directive remains in effect for 30 days from March 21, 2020, unless extended by the Director of the Department. If you have any questions regarding this Directive, please contact Dawn Percy at (916) 654-1963 or [dawn.percy@dds.ca.gov](mailto:dawn.percy@dds.ca.gov).

Sincerely,

*Original Signed by:*

NANCY BARGMANN  
Director

cc: Regional Center Board Presidents  
Regional Center Administrators  
Regional Center Directors of Consumer Services  
Regional Center Community Services Directors  
Association of Regional Center Agencies