



April 29, 2020

His Excellency D. Charles Baker  
Governor of the Commonwealth  
State House – Room 360  
Boston, MA 02133

On behalf of staff who fill more than 180,000 jobs in the community-based human services sector, we sincerely thank you for your responsiveness in addressing the urgent needs of human service providers managing COVID-19 in community-based settings.

Specifically, we wish to extend our profound gratitude to you and your Administration for:

- **\$139 million in financial relief** for human service providers to help meet staffing, PPE, and other extraordinary costs that are required to respond to COVID-19 in congregate care settings;
- **Rapid and ongoing expansion of on-site coronavirus testing in congregate care settings;** and,
- **Expansion of eligibility for MEMA-coordinated PPE reserves to congregate care providers.**

These measures will save lives and will help preserve services for youth, adolescents and adults for whom the Commonwealth entrusts providers to deliver services in safe and supportive congregate care settings.

We wish to thank EOHHS Secretary Marylou Sudders, EOHHS Deputy Secretary Daniel Tsai, Undersecretary of Human Services Catherine Mick and Assistant Secretary for Administration and Finance Alda Rego and their teams for working tirelessly, quickly and collaboratively to solve these challenges.

Thank you.

Lydia Conley  
President/CEO  
Association for Behavioral Healthcare

Ellen Attaliades  
President/CEO  
Association of Developmental Disabilities Providers

Tammy Mello  
Executive Director  
Children's League of Massachusetts

Michael Weekes  
President/CEO  
Providers' Council

Cc: Marylou Sudders, Secretary, Executive Office of Health and Human Services  
Daniel Tsai, Deputy Secretary, Executive Office of Health and Human Services  
Catherine Mick, Undersecretary for Human Services, Executive Office of Health and Human Services  
Alda Rego, Assistant Secretary for Administration and Finance, Executive Office of Health and Human Services