



# CITY OF PHILADELPHIA

Department of Behavioral Health and Intellectual disAbility Services  
Promoting Recovery, Resilience & Self Determination

**Jill Bowen, Ph.D.**  
Commissioner

**Roland Lamb**  
Deputy Commissioner

**Sosunmolu Shoyinka, M.D., MBA.**  
Chief Medical Officer

February 17, 2021

Dear DBHIDS providers,

To help address the isolation and quarantine needs of persons experiencing homelessness in Philadelphia and to prevent continued transmission of SARS-CoV-2 infection within residential facilities, the City of Philadelphia developed an isolation and quarantine site for people who cannot safely quarantine or isolate in their current setting.

- *Isolation* separates sick people from people who are not sick.
- *Quarantine* separates and restricts the movement of people who were exposed to a contagious disease, including contacts of a confirmed case, to prevent them from passing the infection to others if they become sick.

The site is not a healthcare facility; thus, it is not a referral site to obtain medical evaluations or provide hospitalization. The Philadelphia Department of Public Health (PDPH) is responsible for reviewing all referrals to assure that they meet intake criteria and that individuals can be safely housed at the facility. Length of stay is determined by the COVID-19 diagnosis and need for quarantine or isolation.

When an isolation and quarantine site guest successfully completes quarantine and/or isolation, the individual will be given a letter. This letter will confirm that the Philadelphia Department of Public Health has verified that a guest has successfully completed the period of isolation/quarantine or has received a negative test result. When an individual has this letter, there are no restrictions in their housing, travel, employment, or other activities; and should be allowed to *return to the facility* from which one was referred or be *admitted to a facility* that can best meet their needs. The aforementioned includes Behavioral Health Residential Treatment Programs and Behavioral Health and Intellectual disAbility Housing Programs.

Thank you for your continued partnership with DBHIDS and PDPH in serving our most vulnerable Philadelphians. If you have any questions, please contact [DBHIDS.Covidinfo@phila.gov](mailto:DBHIDS.Covidinfo@phila.gov)

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S. Shoyinka'.

Sosunmolu Shoyinka, M.D., MBA.  
Chief Medical Officer