Coronavirus Long-term Care Strike Team

Team Members

*Idaho Department of Health and Welfare:*
Tamara Prisock, Administrator, Division of Licensing and Certification (co-chair)
Marcia Witte, MD, Public Health Physician, Division of Public Health (co-chair)
Cheryl Craig, Epidemiologist, Bureau of Communicable Disease Prevention
Wayne Denny, Chief, Bureau of EMS and Preparedness
Dharmraj Giri, Manager, Health-Associated Infections Program
Beth Kriete, Deputy Division Administrator, Medicaid
Mezelle Moore, Hospital Preparedness Program
Debby Ransom, Chief, Bureau of Facility Standards (SNF/ICF)
Jamie Simpson, Program Supervisor, Residential Assisted Living Facilities

*External Partners:*
Carolyn Bridges, MD, Governor’s Coronavirus Working Group
Megan Dunay, MD, Boise VA Medical Center
Zendi Meharry, Idaho Health Care Association
Tracy Schaner, Idaho Division of Veteran’s Services
Amanda Scott, Idaho Commission on Aging
Mike Sharp, Licensed Assisted Living Administrator
Jodi Vanderpool, St. Luke’s Health System

**Purpose**
Established in early March 2020, the purpose of the Coronavirus Long-term Care Strike Team is to identify and execute immediate actions aimed at addressing the challenges associated with protecting Idaho’s aged population from exposure to the coronavirus. The team will also monitor executed actions for effectiveness and the need for additional interventions.

The team’s focus is in these areas:
- Infection control
- Facility staffing
- Optimize care locations
- Information Dissemination
**Scope**

*Primary audience:*
Long-term residential care facilities (nursing homes and assisted living facilities)

Rationale: Seniors with underlying health conditions requiring 24/7 care in congregate residential settings are highest risk for acquiring and experiencing serious health consequences of COVID-19.

*Secondary audiences:*
- Certified Family Homes
- Independent living facilities with congregate activities (dining, recreational activities, etc)
- In-home caregivers
- Hospice and home health agencies
- Individuals with developmental disabilities living independently

The team is focusing action plans on the primary audience for now but will make educational information available for secondary audiences.