



Behavioral Health Administration

Dr. Veronica Kelley, DSW, LCSW
Director

Michael Knight, MPA
Assistant Director

March 20, 2020

Dear DBH Staff,

As you know, last night the Governor issued a statewide stay-at-home order in response to the coronavirus crisis. As public employees who provide vital health care services to some of the most vulnerable populations in our County, those individuals with a serious and persistent mental illness, children with a serious emotional disturbance and anyone with an addiction in the county, we must ensure our services remain available.

DBH's Executive team is working around the clock to determine which of our 1,300 positions are mission critical and which of those can be done via telecommuting. This will take some time as mission critical positions are not simply physicians, nurses, and clinicians; they are also administrators, clerical, fiscal, auditors, billers, information technology, and facilities, as these positions provide the support and resources needed for DBH to continue to serve the public effectively.

Unless otherwise directed by your supervisor, per the directive issued by the County Executive Officer, report to work as usual. Contact your supervisor if you have additions questions or concerns.

Remember, DBH is the identified provider of behavioral health care for over 60,000 children, adults, and older adults in our county living with a serious and persistent mental illness and/or substance use disorder. We also are the safety net provider for our County's uninsured. The decisions we are making with regards to mission critical positions are not done lightly, are being done with compassion and creativity to ensure the health and wellbeing of our staff and those we serve.

Please refer to the **DBH COVID19 Resources** webpage for staff updates: www.sbcounty.gov/DBH

As always, thank you for all that you for the people we serve and for each other.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Veronica Kelley".

Dr. Veronica Kelley, DSW, LCSW
Director

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