



March 13, 2020

The Honorable Larry Hogan  
Governor  
100 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

RE: Financial Crisis Facing Medical Adult Day Care Centers: COVID-19

Dear Governor Hogan:

On behalf of our member centers and the clients we care for, the Maryland Association of Adult Day Services (MAADS) urges action to ensure that the medical adult day industry can withstand the COVID-19 crisis and continue to be a viable community option for the elderly and disabled individuals when this crisis abates. While we understand that all businesses are experiencing losses during this time, our concern is that, if action is not immediately taken, many centers will not be able to withstand this crisis and will close, eliminating this essential service for many elderly and disabled individuals.

Because our clients are the population most affected by COVID-19, centers are already experiencing clients calling out, not just for the day but indicating that the client will be absent for an extended time. When this occurs, centers receive no reimbursement, despite still needing to make payroll and cover other operating expenses.

At this time, MAADS is requesting that medical adult day centers be placed on a priority list for action. We would request that the State consider gap funding for centers during this crisis and/or waive current regulatory requirements to allow centers to continue to provide services to clients and receive reimbursement through alternative means, such as home delivery of meals and telehealth (e.g., phone calls) services to monitor client's health status. We cannot stress enough that, if centers close as a result of this crisis and clients lose services, many will ultimately end up in more costly nursing facilities. The State has committed itself to increasing home-and-community based services and will must ensure that this commitment can continue following this crisis. Thank you for your immediate attention to this request. I can be reached at (240) 245-0616 for further discussion or questions.

Sincerely,

Karin Lakin, Chair  
MAADS Public Policy Committee

cc: Diane Croghan, Deputy Chief, Governor's Office  
The Honorable Robert Neall, Secretary of Health  
The Honorable Rona Kramer, Secretary of Aging