

For Immediate Release

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STATEMENT FROM ADHCC IN REACTION TO STATE OF THE STATE

Adult Day Health Care Council expresses Disappointment regarding Continued Closures of Day Programs

As closures of programs persist across the state, registrants continue to endure increased health issues without daily care and structure

(Albany, N.Y.) – The following is a statement from Anne Hill, Executive Director, [Adult Day Health Care Council](#), in response to Governor Cuomo’s State of the State [address](#).

Since the pandemic began, the New York State Department of Health has not allowed our programs to operate in a normal, in-person capacity, even though every other healthcare setting is currently open and able to provide care for their patients. Consistent with other healthcare providers, we, the Council, who represent 115 medical model adult day healthcare programs across the state, are confident that **our team of healthcare professionals are prepared to follow strict infection control measures and other policies determined by the state**. These measures are now amplified as more and more member staff begin to receive the vaccine.

The Governor’s speech focused on providing New Yorkers with increased telehealth services. **While telehealth is a tool to assist during this pandemic, it is not a replacement** for human interaction for those who need it most. These individuals require necessary nursing services and therapies, as well as companionship and purpose. Adult day Health Care programs also allow caregivers the opportunity to return to work, which is a critical piece of New York’s economic recovery.

Even just last week, we were told by the State Department of Health that we are not permitted to accept any new enrollments, even for telehealth. This further **deprives the most vulnerable population access to basic care.**

Adult Day healthcare programs have been the heart and soul of many individuals who were using these programs before the pandemic. Because we have only been allowed telehealth communication with program registrants since last March, caregivers and program directors alike, are **seeing significant mental and physical decline.** Many of the individuals who participate in the programs do not have nearby family or support, and have been alone since the pandemic.

I do urge the Governor and the State Department of Health to reconsider their position on the Adult Day Health Care Programs across the state.

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About Adult Day healthcare Council. The Adult Day Health Care Council (ADHCC) represents 115 medical model adult day healthcare (ADHC) programs, more than 90 percent of ADHC programs operating across New York State. ADHCC members serve more than 8,000 New Yorkers annually. It is the only organization that speaks exclusively for ADHC providers. The Council is dedicated to the continuation and expansion of adult day health care in an effort to meet the needs of the frail elderly, chronically ill, disabled adults and their caregivers. The Council offers members outstanding operational and regulatory guidance along with state and federal advocacy and an array of educational events, useful products and resources. To contact ADHCC, call 518-867-8383 or email ahill@leadingageny.org.