



STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
LANSING

GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

ROBERT GORDON
DIRECTOR

April 15, 2020

To: Executive Directors, Pre-paid Inpatient Health Plans and
Community Mental Health Services Programs

From: Jeffery L. Wieferich, MA, LLP, Director *JW*
Bureau of Community Based Services
Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities Administration

RE: Residential Provider Food Support - Clarification

This communication seeks to clarify the earlier notice about assistance for Adult Foster Care (AFC) Homes who are having difficulty getting adequate amounts of food due to restrictions on bulk buying.

Please inform the AFCs that the distributors, Gordon Food Service, Sysco and others have ample food and that the home itself should be reaching out directly to them. If in some rare cases, distributors are not available, then the homes should be talking with the retailers directly, preferably prior to just showing up, and try to make arrangements for purchasing food.

For the rare situations where distributors are not available, and even rarer that they reached out to their local retailer and have still been denied, then and only then would they reach out to their local emergency manager for assistance. Please do not contact the local emergency manager for making the initial connection to the food distributor or retailer. Only contact the local emergency manager in situations where an AFC had exhausted all means of trying to obtain adequate food and have been unsuccessful. The local emergency manager is not able to make the initial connection to the distributor and numerous calls to them are preventing them from being able to address other needs.