



230 Washington Avenue Extension, Suite 101
Albany, NY 12203-5190

Phone: (518) 694-5366
Fax: (518) 463-8656
nysadsa@caphill.com
www.nysadulday.com

Re: SADC Registration with DFTA

From: NYS Adult Day Services Association (NYSADSA)

To Whom It May Concern,

We are writing to you today to respectfully request a waiver or postponement of the DFTA registration fee until at least August 2020, which is in line with the Governor's latest announcement on extending the rent moratorium due to COVID-19 related hardships, or when SADC centers are allowed to start operating at an in-house, full capacity. At this time, SADC programs are struggling, like so many other industries across the State hit hardest by the pandemic. Centers are struggling to receive reimbursement from MLTC Plans for ongoing telehealth work approved by the NYSDOH on April 7, 2020. Many programs have not received payment in 8 weeks and are running on depleted reserves, if any.

There are currently 366 Social Adult Day Centers registered with DFTA in the 5 boroughs. The majority of those 366 centers are **closed** and **non-operational**, however a small percentage of programs are **closed** but **operational**, working with a skeleton staff while other staff are temporarily furloughed. Open and operational centers are working within the telehealth guidelines approved and administered by the NYSDOH, providing meals, PPE, essential supplies, activities, case management and wellness checks for clients. Centers are also paying for apps to check in on clients virtually, as well as purchasing crafts, books, newspapers and other forms of entertainment permissible.

In previous email communications, DFTA explained that the registration deadline would be extended to May 15th which is aligned with New York's "PAUSE" order but unfortunately that extension is still insufficient. As programs are still struggling to get reimbursed and have little to no revenues coming in, our fear is that many centers forced to close their doors will most likely never open again.

For the reasons stated above, we are urging DFTA to waive or postpone the \$900 registration fee. If the fee is postponed, we recommend it go into effect only when SADC centers are permitted to operate at an in-house, full capacity, or business as usual.

We urge you to not add to an already burdensome financial situation for our industry, already struggling to survive and help our most vulnerable populations in NYC stay alive and out of hospitals.

Thank you so much for your consideration of this request. Please contact us directly with any questions or concerns.

New York State Adult Day Services Association, Inc.

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