

# Clarification of the Health Risk Screening Tool (HRST) Implementation for AAW and ACAP ODP Announcement 19-059

## **AUDIENCE:**

All Adult Autism Waiver (AAW) and Adult Community Autism Program (ACAP) Supports Coordinators (SC) and Residential Providers

## **PURPOSE:**

To clarify ODP Announcement 19-052: Health Risk Screening Tool (HRST) Implementation specific to the expectations for Bureau of Autism Services (BAS) programs

## **DISCUSSION:**

On May 1, 2019, ODP issued an important announcement outlining the HRST implementation plan, the protocol, and Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs). As indicated, the HRST will be rolled out to those individuals receiving waiver or base funded residential services (i.e., Residential Habilitation [Licensed and Unlicensed], Supported Living, and Life Sharing/Family Living [Licensed and Unlicensed]). This includes participants in both AAW and ACAP programs. *Please ensure you review the detailed communication and accompanying documents (see attached).*

The HRST will be a useful addition to the Periodic Risk Evaluation (PRE) in proactively identifying health risks and destabilization. To further clarify expectations, please note the following:

1. Residential providers should identify staff who will become a trained HRST rater (see attached PA HRST Protocol, pages 2 and 3).
2. Residential providers must have an employed or contracted registered nurse (RN) who is trained in HRST to conduct clinical reviews on a quarterly basis, and when

- participants have a score of 3 or higher on the HRST (see attached PA HRST Protocol, pages 4 and 5).
3. Like the PRE, SCs will use the HRST to inform the Individual Support Plan (ISP) and general planning processes through identification and mitigation of risks and monitoring of the mitigation plan (see attached PA HRST Protocol, page 6).

All parties mentioned in the communication should register for one of the HRST trainings identified on page two of the ODP 19-052 communication in preparation for the initial roll out for all AAW and ACAP participants in residential settings **starting July 2019 ending December 2019.**

BAS, along with the Health Care Quality Units (HCQUs) can provide technical assistance and training, as needed. For questions regarding this communication, please contact the Provider Support Mailbox at [ra-basprovidersupprt@pa.gov](mailto:ra-basprovidersupprt@pa.gov) with “HRST” in the subject line.