

LOUISIANA STATE REPORT 2022—ICF

Our large care state-run facility at Pinecrest has not received too many changes in the past year. We still have some COVID restrictions, even though some of prior restrictions have laxed. Our COVID numbers have been low for the past year, with our residents remaining healthy and active on the campus grounds. Parents have to check with their home managers in connection to visits, whether on the grounds or in the community. The adult kids that are fully vaccinated do not have to do quarantine after they are allowed to go with their parents off the grounds, whether to their homes or to shop and eat in the community. The campus has tighter restriction to do with visitation in order to protect the staff and residents. They follow federal CDC guidelines.

The Legislative Session is over with no budget cuts to our facility.

Our State budget passed allowing \$1.5 million to provide dental care for Adults with IDD both in ICF's and on Waivers comprehensive care through Medicaid. The Louisiana Dental Task Force is still moving forward – working with the LSU Dental School and others to provide training for dentists, families, and caregivers as well as finding facilities where the services can be accessed instead of the current waiting lists people are on. Further funding is also being addressed.

Issues with direct care staff shortages continues. With the state ending COVID exceptions it is presenting more challenges to providers who struggle to have enough caregivers for their clients.