



December 8, 2020

Colleagues, stakeholder and interested parties,

The holiday is fast approaching and WSC is working hard to ensure the safety of everyone during this season. As most of you know there is a surge statewide. The provider community is being experiencing an increase in cases as well. To date WSC has had no COVID positive homes but we have had two staff test positive. In one case all other staff and residents tested negative and the other case is still pending. So, as we suspected it was just a matter of time until the second surge hit us. As a result of the uptick in exposures or potential exposures we are going to put a hold on in person visitation for the next two weeks, from 12/8-12/22. We will revisit the issue on the 22nd and hope to be able to lift the restriction for the holidays.

Visitation:

Residential visitation: At this time, WSC has no COVID positive home BUT we have had 2 exposures, one of which we are still waiting on further test results to determine its effect on WSC. Until further notice and at least for the next two weeks WSC will be stopping all in person visitation.

Day visitation: Essential visitation only and it must be approved by the Director and scheduled in advance.

Vendor visitation: All vendor visitations will be limited to emergency only. Please ensure that anyone entering the homes is screened and temp scanned.

Testing: Testing continues, and we are currently in a surveillance testing period 11/26-12/09/20. ALL STAFF MUST BE TESTED AT LEAST 1X MONTHLY. ANY ONE WITH THE LAST INITIAL A-K SHOULD PLAN ON COMING TO THE OFFICE PRIOR TO THE 9TH TO TEST. L-Z WILL NEED TO TEST BETWEEN 12/10-12/23. Testing will continue in this way for the foreseeable future. If the COVID rates continue to increase, we may be required to increase staff testing.

Employees can stop by the office during business hours of M- F 9a -4p for COVID testing. If multiple people show up for testing at the same time you may be asked to wait outside and/or to test in your vehicle. If you work at a site where there has been a possible exposure you will be asked not to enter the building.

Office operations: Our office continues to be open on a limited basis. Employees should be accessing the building for essential activities only and are asked to make an appointment in advance.

Day program operations: Currently, approximately 50% of our members are attending. WSC limited attendance is intentional. We closed 2 cohorts last week and 2 cohorts this week in an abundance of caution. We are having staff and participants test.

Residential operations: Currently all our homes are COVID free. However, we are seeing raising numbers of COVID cases everywhere and have had two exposures in the last 5 days. Please remember that this is not over – take precautions - wear your masks – social distance – wash your hands. Treat everyone as if they are COVID positive.

PPE/Cleaning & Household supplies – WSC continues to purchase and make available PPE. We have KN 95 and surgical masks, gloves, goggles, face shields, gowns, hand sanitizer, disinfectant sprays and wipes, oximeters, and temporal thermometers. Additionally, for the homes we have a stock of paper towels, toilet paper, batteries, water, air mattresses, flashlights and other supplies that have been difficult to purchase in the stores.

PLEASE use PPE the correct way – wear your mask correctly at all times, wash your hands, wear gloves and assume everyone can expose you to COVID. The best tools we must fight this pandemic are PPE, handwashing and social distancing. We all got good news about a vaccine being available in the near future so there is a light at the end of the tunnel. Please continue being safe so that we can all get there together.

As always if you have any questions please let a manager know.

Thank you!

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