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April 6, 2020

TO: ALL STAKEHOLDERS & STAFF

FROM: John Randall President & CEO

Thanks to everyone for your patience and willingness to work through this challenging time. Priorities change quickly, but there are some practices that have been in place with minor modifications throughout this period. I would like to reiterate them and state them clearly.

- 1. There should be no family visits of any kind to the homes at this point. I will quote a March 25<sup>th</sup> advisory from Jane Ryder, the Commissioner of the Department of Developmental Services, to reinforce this process, "All in-person visitation to group homes and residential facilities is now prohibited."
- 2. Families who choose to take their loved ones home will be keeping their loved ones with them for the duration of the event. Initially, the timelines were moving, but it was for 'at least two weeks'. It is abundantly clear that it is going to be a much longer duration. While our clinicians can be available to triage with families over the phone or electronically, the staff that usually work directly with your loved ones will not be available. This decision is also supported by Commissioner Ryder's March 25th communication to families:

"In accordance with the DPH Stay-at-Home Advisory, we are suspending short visits with family into the community or to the family home. If you wish to take your family member home with you, they must remain with you for the duration of this public health emergency."

PLEASE continue to work with us to adhere to these guidelines. While a number of your loved ones receive services in children's programs, the advisories from all relevant Commissioners mirror Commissioner Ryder's.

Thank you for the sacrifices you are all making and we look forward to ending these restrictive measures as soon as it is advisable.