

Fw: COVID-19 Update June 2, 2020

1 message

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Sent: Tue Jun 02 2020 13:34:12 GMT-0500 (CDT)

Subject: COVID-19 Update June 2, 2020

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As we look ahead to next week, when about 50 individuals will return to day programs in phase one of our reopening plan, we anticipate there will be a good deal of excitement about reuniting with friends and program staff.

The safety part of our reopening plan encourages persons served to wear masks, observe physical distancing and wash their hands frequently. Employees are expected to follow the same protocols. Everyone will be required to have their temperatures checked before coming to a program area or a work location. Our reopening plan also calls for plexiglass barriers to separate people, appropriately spaced tables and frequent deep cleaning of program areas. This plan is a working plan, and may change based on what we see after people return to day programs.

I want to express my deep gratitude to you for working with us these past three months to keep persons served safe and healthy. We recognize the many sacrifices you have made and know how hard it has been. We appreciate you walking this unprecedented road along with us, as I don't think any of us could have imagined how difficult this would be for everyone involved. We know continued vigilance is necessary, and we will take every possible precaution to keep persons served and their support staff healthy as we move forward.











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Fw: COVID-19 Update June 9, 2020

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Sent: Tue Jun 09 2020 16:14:05 GMT-0500 (CDT)

Subject: COVID-19 Update June 9, 2020

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Yesterday, about 50 individuals returned to day programs in phase one of our reopening plan. Phase two calls for around 60 additional individuals to join them next Monday, but we will monitor successes and challenges this week to make sure we are ready for that next step.

This is a deliberately slow process as we adjust to changing recommendations from our Sedgwick County health officials and try to balance those with the desire to return to a new "normal" after sheltering for the better part of three months. COVID-19 remains a tangible threat, as other areas have recently seen a spike in confirmed cases. That is a good reminder to us that the key to resuming more typical program offerings is to not move forward more quickly than safe practices will allow.

So far, persons served are responding well to encouragement to wear masks and wash their hands frequently. They enjoyed seeing their friends and trainers after a number of weeks, and I anticipate that next week will bring the same reactions.

Thank you again for your patience as we work through the reopening plan in a way that keeps persons served safe and healthy. We will continue to update

you about how things are progressing and any changes that may happen along the way.

Colin McKenney, CEO











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Fw: COVID-19 Update June 16, 2020

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Sent: Tue Jun 16 2020 16:07:04 GMT-0500 (CDT)

Subject: COVID-19 Update June 16, 2020

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This week, additional individuals returned to campus in phase two of our reopening plan. This brings the total in Starkey's day programs to around 100 persons served who are spread throughout various buildings and program areas. We are monitoring the health of these individuals and taking all precautions to ensure their continued safety.

Yesterday, Governor Laura Kelly pointed out that Sedgwick County is one of the counties in our state where positive cases of COVID-19 have continued to rise. While some of this can be attributed to more testing, some of it is likely tied to the reopening of our community and gatherings of people.

At Starkey, we will continue to consider the numbers of people in a shared room and create distancing and divided spaces wherever possible. The next phase of our reopening plan is a couple of weeks away, but we will evaluate that timing and adjust our plan depending on where we are with active cases in our county and state at that time.

We will continue these weekly updates through all phases of our reopening plan into July. Thank you again for the many ways you have supported our efforts these past few months.











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Fw: COVID-19 Update June 23, 2020

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Sent: Tue Jun 23 2020 15:10:12 GMT-0500 (CDT)

Subject: COVID-19 Update June 23, 2020

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Starting June 29, our reopening plan will enter its third phase, which allows all persons served to return to day programs. It is has been exciting to see people again as they return to our main buildings. This month has also been a time of adopting new daily practices. We are doing well at wearing masks consistently and keeping physical distance. We are washing hands and surfaces regularly, and monitoring the temperatures of all persons served daily before they come to programs.

Our restrictions on visitors, including family members, will also become less restrictive, but visitors will still be screened every time and asked to follow the appropriate safety precautions. We have encouraged our employees to consider how their own personal activities may expose them to COVID-19, and thereby expose persons served to that risk through their interactions. We will ask the same of our visitors.

Cases of COVID-19 in our county continue to rise, but we will continue to take all the necessary precautions to keep persons served safe and healthy. The sacrifices families have made to get us to this point are nothing short of remarkable, and I want to thank you for your many acts of generosity and your partnership within our Starkey community to help us get through this pandemic.











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Fw: COVID-19 Update July 14, 2020

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Sent: Tue Jul 14 2020 14:28:07 GMT-0500 (CDT)

Subject: COVID-19 Update July 14, 2020

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In our last update, we let you know about our decision to take a step back from Starkey's reopening plan and return day programs to our residential locations for a period of two weeks. Due to the rapid rise in positive COVID-19 cases in our community, we have now made the decision to continue operating out of the homes for a few more weeks.

I know some of our persons served will be extremely disappointed to adjust to day programs in the home again, but we are actively planning some creative and safe ways for them to participate in community activities in small groups.

We also are allowing visitors at this time, which should help. Visitors are to expected wear masks, maintain distance, get their temperatures taken and work with us to keep people safe. Being able to connect with loved ones and friends will make it easier for persons served to be at home.

We will continue to evaluate the COVID-19 situation in Sedgwick County. If there is a significant decline in the number of active cases, we will have a greater comfort level with bringing people together again. Our priority is to keep everyone safe and healthy. While we don't have an exact date yet for a reopening of day programs, we will continue to communicate with you each week on Tuesdays. Thank you for working with us during these unusual months.











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