

Good afternoon,

We have come to the conclusion of another work week. Today is Good Friday and, on Sunday, Christians will celebrate Easter. Coming into the week we were told by multiple news outlets that it would be the worst week yet in terms of the toll that the Coronavirus would take. With that being said, I am pleased - and incredibly relieved and grateful - to report that at this moment we have just one confirmed positive case. Thanks goes out to each of you that have stepped up during this crisis and have made personal sacrifices in order to keep the individuals we support away from potential exposure and life threatening danger. You are all to be commended for your heroic efforts!!

The following briefly summarizes just some of the important events of this past week:

On Sunday, April 5th, we received confirmation that our first client had tested positive for COVID-19. The individual was immediately separated from a housemate and both were quarantined at separate locations. Staff that may have had potential exposure to the virus through contact with our client voluntarily placed themselves in a 14 day self-quarantine. I am pleased to report that both the individual and the individual's housemate are doing very well and exhibiting only minor or no symptoms. Neither has demonstrated a fever over the past several days. Staff in self-quarantine also report that they are feeling well. In addition, staff that had previously been in quarantine situations report that they are now feeling well.

By the end of the day yesterday, nearly all of The Arc's residential programs had moved into a 14-day shelter in place protocol. As you know, this means that specific staff have volunteered to stay at the homes they work in for the duration of the 14-day period. Travel from, and visitation to, all of our homes is restricted to absolute necessity or emergency. By instituting this shelter in place protocol we believe we are taking another measure to help reduce the number of people coming and going and thereby limit the potential spread of the Coronavirus.

Staff that have not been identified to work under the shelter in place protocol have, unfortunately, been placed on temporary furlough. The Arc has agreed to assist every furloughed employee with maintaining their health benefits until they return to work at the end of the crisis. Colleen Dennis has issued two letters explaining our temporary furlough, the use of accrued benefit time, and filing for unemployment. The Arc has applied for a number of grants/loans that are designed to help address lost wages and benefits as a result of the Coronavirus. More information will be shared concerning the status of these grants/loans as it is made available to us.

We will be keeping you updated from time to time with important further developments. We are also in communication with our families and guardians who have responded with encouragement and gratitude for the work that you are doing and the compassion you are showing every day toward their loved ones. You are each single-handedly making a tremendous difference in the lives of the people you are

supporting. I speak on behalf of The Arc's administration, its Board of Directors, and the broader Arc Family when I say thank you so very much for everything you are doing!!

Things will get better. Please continue to stay well and have a blessed Easter.

Sincerely,

Jeff

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