



“Committed to Care”

TO: All Staff & Families

FROM: LCARC Residential Program Directors

DATE: November 18, 2020

SUBJECT: Visitation During the Fall and Winter Seasons

This letter is to inform everyone that with the holidays approaching and Lawrence County currently having a positivity percentage over 10%, we understand our procedure of suspending outings from the group homes can be challenging for both our clients and their families. Taking these items into account, we would like to partner with our families to come up with a way to provide safe outings that will protect your loved one, anyone they may live with, and LCARC staff and their families.

We understand this year is like no other and we want to assure you we are following all procedures and protocols to ensure the safety of your loved one, those that they live with, and the staff that provide services for them. We are asking you to please get in contact with your program specialist regarding any outings that you are planning during this time so that we can collectively ensure a safe outing. Unfortunately, with the positivity percentage being over 10%, we are still unable to provide visits inside the group homes.

We want to make sure the guidance provided by the Department of Health and the Office of Developmental Programs (ODP) is being followed while on the outing with your family member, such as face coverings, gatherings with people who only live in your household, social distancing, small group gatherings, visiting an area where the positivity percentage is under 10% and sanitizing (per ODP announcement 20-066). Also, effective 11/20/2020, the PA Department of Health announced new mandates for travelers entering the state and mask requirements. Please see the attached information from the PA Department of Health to inform you of these changes.

If you are unable to have an outing with your family member during this time, we have video conferencing available so you can visit remotely. We also encourage a porch visit if you would like to drop off something special for your family member at the group home.

This has been very hard on all of us, especially your loved one, so we want to make sure folks can see their loved ones and do so safely. All the staff at LCARC appreciate your cooperation in keeping all of us safe.

If you have any specific questions, please feel free to contact one of the Program Directors.



TARGETED EFFORTS TO CONTROL SPREAD OF COVID-19 IN PA



Memo to acute care hospital CEOs/CMOs outlining opportunity to work collaboratively and expectations if they don't to ensure health systems can provide care to PA'ians who need it



Travel order requiring anyone who visits PA from another state to get tested within 72 hours before entering PA. Pa'ians who travel to other states must follow same rules when coming home



Masks still required indoors and outdoors. When indoors, masks now required anytime you're with people outside of your household, even if you're socially distant



Recommendations for colleges and universities to develop and implement testing strategy to prevent outbreaks when students return to campus from holiday break

