

Email To Parents and Families

CSS Coronavirus Update

Dear CSS Families and Friends,

We are continuing to monitor the evolving Coronavirus (COVID-19) situation carefully, and would like to provide you with an update on the steps CSS is currently taking.

As many of you know, Maryland will be closing schools for the next two weeks. CSS will also close The Marcia D. Smith School during this same time period (3/16-3/27). We will operate during spring break instead and extend by a week at the end of the year to make up the days. Children's after school and Saturday services are also cancelled for two weeks. Our residential children will continue to receive services and will be staffed as needed.

We are also currently assessing all scheduled events and our adult individuals' schedules, and making adjustments to avoid crowds as necessary with the best interest of everyone's health and safety in mind. We have canceled our Sunday program and have sent a list of alternative activities for people to do. The Day Program will remain open for individuals wishing to continue participating in the program, but will modify schedules so people are not in crowded places.

Individuals in our Residential Program will not be attending Day Services at our main office and will instead be doing individual scheduled activities in their homes or outside, to help reduce the number of people in our main office. We are also minimizing the number of employees that will be visiting the houses. Plans are in place to ensure that food, medication, and other necessities will be available for prolonged periods of time.

Worksites at nursing homes were suspended on Monday. We also stopped activities at community centers where there are a lot of senior programs. We will obviously continue to monitor the closure of the various worksites and will decide on continuing to work at worksites that remain open, on a case by case decision during this period of time.

Additionally, staff are instructed to stay home if sick, as well as individuals, and we are cleaning the building, vans and other areas that are often used at a high frequency.

Please know that CSS is updating its emergency plan in case there is someone who is found to be infected.

Finally, we also are continuing to follow the guidelines that we have shared with you previously and that is below.

As you know, the health and well-being of those we support and our staff are our highest priority. If your son or daughter lives with you, and you choose to keep your family members at home for any part of the next few weeks, we understand and encourage you to make the decision that you believe is best for your family.

We will continue to monitor state and local guidance, and will update you should we make any further adjustments to this plan.