

May 14, 2020

Dear Arc NCR Community Members:

We know that these are difficult and challenging times and we appreciate the support of the community at The Arc Northern Chesapeake Region (The Arc NCR) for their continued commitment through this pandemic. We would not have been able to persevere through the past few months without your support. The Arc NCR is also thankful that we can begin looking ahead at when and how the organization will resume programs and services. As you have likely heard, effective Friday, May 15 at 5:00 p.m. Governor Larry Hogan has lifted the Stay at Home order and Maryland has entered in to Phase 1 of the [Roadmap to Recovery plan](#).

While we are all eager to begin regular services again, The Arc NCR needs to continue to make the health and safety of supported individuals, team members, and the community its highest priority. With this in mind, the organization will slowly resume program operations instead of opening all at once. This will be done to ensure the well-being of everyone and allow the organization to monitor progress of reopening. When programs do resume, please keep in mind that services will look differently than before COVID-19. During Phase 1 of Governor Hogan's plan, most services provided by our organization will remain as it has been since March 13, 2020. This includes the following:

Community Partners

The Community Partners day program will be closed. Supported individuals should plan to stay at home during this time. Virtual meetings are being developed for individuals and information will be forthcoming.

Employment Services

The Employment Services Discovery class remains cancelled. Individuals should not report to The Arc NCR building as support will not be provided in the building. For individuals receiving Customized Integrated Employment, and whose employers are still open, The Arc NCR will continue to provide transportation to and from work. In addition, all individuals employed on contracts and janitorial should continue their schedule as it is now. If individuals are currently working, they will continue and if they are not, they will continue to not report to work during Phase 1. Transportation will also continue to be provided. Any changes in transportation will be communicated if needed. Virtual coaching meetings are being developed for individuals and information will be forthcoming.

Personal Supports

Personal Supports will not be provided, except for supports deemed medically necessary. Virtual meetings are being developed for individuals and information will be forthcoming.

Community Living

The Arc NCR will continue to provide Community Living Services. Individuals supported in Community Living will not be permitted to attend day services, whether through The Arc NCR's program or through other providers. Virtual day programs have started for people in the Community Living program. This will continue until The Arc NCR deems it safe for people to resume normal day program activities.

Treatment Foster Care

The Treatment Foster Care program will continue to operate. Virtual meetings are taking place and will continue. Any additional changes in home visits from social workers will be communicated directly to foster care families from your social worker or the Director of Treatment Foster Care.

Family Support Services

Respite care will not be provided. All scheduled activities and trainings will be held virtually; including dinner club, trainings and workshops, and parents support groups. Camp Sp'Arc has still not made any decisions and will release updated information in the coming weeks. If you have any questions or need information on joining an activity or training virtually, please reach out to fss@arcncr.org.

Visitor Policy

Visitors are still not permitted in The Arc NCR's building. If you feel that your meeting is urgent, please contact info@arcncr.org to have your visit approved. In addition, we ask that any visitors planning to visit a Community Living home to cancel their visit during Phase 1. A no visitor policy will remain in effect for Community Living during this time.

Volunteer Program

All volunteer activities and volunteer visits remain cancelled. Volunteers are encouraged to meet with supported individuals virtually, if appropriate and possible. Volunteers should reach out to the Events & Volunteer Coordinator to reschedule or for any questions.

Events

The Arc NCR's annual After d'Arc Gala that had been rescheduled to Friday, June 12, 2020 has been postponed to Friday, October 30, 2020. Please email development@arcncr.org directly for questions or concerns.

While I know team members and people we support may want to resume normal activities sooner, we feel it is best for everyone to slowly phase in regular activities and services. **Please know that this plan is in effect for the duration of Governor Hogan's Phase 1 in the**



FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THIS AND OTHER TOPICS, VISIT WWW.ARCNCR.ORG

Roadmap to Recovery plan. The Arc NCR will communicate any changes for Phase 2 when the time comes to transition to the next phase. We appreciate your flexibility during this transition, and we will continue to update you as frequently as possible.

If you have any questions and would like to reach out to someone directly, please contact info@arcncr.org. Thank you in advance for your understanding and cooperation amidst these difficult times.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'SK', followed by a horizontal line.

Shawn Kros
CEO