

May 28, 2020

RE: CSN COVID-19 (coronavirus) communication to our stakeholders

CSN Community,

As our Nation is ‘opening *its* doors’, CSN remains committed to doing everything we can to support our members and employees through this pandemic. In a May 4th, 2020 communication, I announced that “as of June 1, 2020, all CSN (and CI) offices and day service settings will return to being *open to the public* during normal business hours.” While social distancing practices seem to have slowed the spread of COVID-19, new cases continue to be reported in all cities where CSN provides supports. Reasonably, for many community members, *quarantine fatigue* is a very real issue and many people we support and the their CSN support professionals have experienced this firsthand. However, the data is clear, and we believe that the threat is real and remains.

The Community Supports Network continues to and will continue to make data driven decisions with the safety of our members, our employees and our communities at the center of our strategies. Due to ongoing monitoring of our current climate and the data related, **we are extending our office and day services (Labor Solutions) reopening date from June 1, 2020 to July 6, 2020**.

CSN Reopening Guidance

At CSN, we care deeply for the people we support and the people we employ. Furthermore, our organization holds its social responsibility in high regard. Our strategies will continue to reflect these tenets and changes will be made to CSN locations where physical distancing may pose a challenge. We are currently developing guidance for our offices and Labor Solution’s worksites that will aid our visitors as well as increase the likelihood of safety for our employees and members. Like you, we are anxious to return to *normal*, but we will continue to navigate our ‘*new normal*’ until the data shows we have arrived.

CSN Premium Pay

CSN has amazing staff and we are proud to employ and support an essential workforce! The CSN Support Professionals and CSN Managers deserve high praise for their hard work, dedication, and loyalty to CSN members during this unprecedented time. In recognition of their essential efforts, CSN initiated CSN Premium Pay in early April for all CSN employees. The CSN Premium Pay will continue, for all CSN employees, **until July 23, 2020**.

In closing, I continue to strongly urge anyone wanting to socialize with anyone supported by CSN to do so by alternative means. This recommendation applies to **all CSN residences** (also strongly recommended for CSN Shared Living Providers and CSN Host Homes). All CSN employees and locations will continue to practice and support social distancing, the use of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and proper hygiene practices beyond July 2020 and for the foreseeable future. Additionally, CSN employees are encouraged to continue to support CSN members to maintain relationships and community integration through electronic video means. At CSN, we will continue to discuss our current climate and offer options and creative solutions to keep people engaged in their homes or safely in the community.

CSN values all stakeholder feedback. Please contact me or the CSN Chief Operating Officer, Tiffany Schnittker, with any questions or suggestions you may have regarding our response and planning related to COVID-19 (coronavirus).

Sincerely,

Brian Kanter
President & CEO

The Community Supports Network, Inc. will continue to work with our local partners in each state that we work in as well as continue to monitor credible sources, such as the Center for Disease Control (CDC) and the World Health Organization (WHO), for the most current and reliable information and guidance. Please visit/follow our Facebook pages where we will continue to post the most current information available.
