

April 8, 2020

RE: COVID-19 (coronavirus) / Visits to CSN Supported Homes by Non-Employees

CSN Community,

CSN is committed to doing everything we can to support our members and employees through this time. In a time of global unrest, social awareness and social consciousness is also of great concern for our organization. CSN's efforts will aim to reduce the likelihood of infection of our members and our employees, but also serve to reduce the impact on our healthcare system by implementing proactive measures and prioritizing health and wellness.

With the COVID-19 virus escalating in nature, CSN must take strong measures to protect the health and safety of the individuals we support, our employees, our subcontractors and our communities.

While CSN offices and day service locations officially closed to the public in late March 2020, effective immediately and through the month of April 2020, **all CSN residences** (also strongly recommended for CSN SLPs and CSN Host Homes) strongly urges visitors to find alternative means to socialize with CSN members. While this organization acknowledges the inability to 'close' homes, we are strongly urging that only employees be in the homes of people we support. Additionally, we are urging clients of CSN to avoid leaving their home unless necessary. Furthermore, for necessary trips (ex. grocery store), we are asking that they are limited in nature (ex. once a week) or that, if available, delivery services are utilized.

Of notable importance, CSN acknowledges the importance of outdoor physical activity as well as in-person relationships. During a time when staying at home is encouraged and non-employee visitors are not ideal, CSN will continue to encourage engaging in outdoor recreation as well as to encourage visits to be facilitated outdoors, provided that necessary precautions are taken and maintained to reduce the transmission of COVID-19, including observing the social gathering and social distancing requirements. Additionally, CSN employees are encouraged to assist and support CSN members to maintain relationships through electronic video means.

These measures may seem extreme. Please understand that in this time of uncertainty the safety of the people we support, and our employees must be at the center of our decisions.

CSN values all stakeholder feedback. Please contact me or the CSN COO, 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.
