



March 16, 2020

Dear Families,

The health and safety of the students, adults we support, and employees is Benedictine's highest priority. This morning Governor Hogan announced new measures to address COVID-19 and we received updated guidance from the CDC over the weekend. Based on the latest information and out of an abundance of caution we are instituting the following program changes effective March 17, 2020.

Visitor Policy

Given the new guidance we have modified our visitor policy for all program areas:

- Please cancel your visit to a community home or campus if you are feeling ill, have travelled to a high risk area, or come into contact with someone who has travelled internationally or to a high risk area in the U.S.
- No off campus or out of home visits with family members. If this does occur you will be required to take your loved one home.
- Non family members are not allowed to enter community homes or the campus.
- Family visits should be coordinated in advance with your Case Manager, Program Coordinator or Administration.
- Family visits are limited to 2 family members and will occur in a designated area of the home or on campus for specified period of time.

Adult Day Programs

Beginning March 17, 2020 through March 27th all adult day programs will be closed. This includes both our Ridgely Campus and Easton location. We will update the time as we receive new information from our state partners.

Adult Residential Program

Benedictine community homes will remain open. All community plans are cancelled. We will implement the enhanced visitor policy and health monitoring.

Personal Supports

Beginning March 17, 2020 through the end of March, Personal Supports will not be provided unless medically necessary.

School Residential Program

The school residential program will continue to operate as outlined in our statement on March 13, 2020. Community plans have been cancelled until further notice.

Education Program

The education program will remain closed until March 27th as communicated in our statement on March 13, 2020. We will continue to update this timeline as new information is received by our state and federal partners.

Benedictine will continue to implement enhanced cleaning for all facilities and health monitoring for the students, adults we support and employees. This includes:

- Wash your hands frequently with an alcohol based hand sanitizer or soap and water for at least 20 seconds
- Temperature checks when warranted
- If an employee is sick in any way they are to stay home
- Continuous cleaning of all facilities and vehicles

We will continue to monitor the situation with COVID-19 and send updates when we receive additional guidance from our state and federal partners. Please check our website www.benschool.org for copies of all our correspondence. If you have specific program related questions please reach out to your program director and/or case manager.

We also understand that at times like this you may want your loved one closer to you. If that is the case please reach out to your program director or case manager to discuss options. Some have asked about funding ramifications if you decided to take your loved one home – please do not worry about that during this time.

I understand this is an extremely trying time for all of us. I would like to thank all of our employees who have stepped up in so many ways over the past week. They have truly lived up to our mission and values and I am extremely proud of how they have met this challenge. This is an unprecedented situation for all of us and please rest assured that Benedictine will continue to focus our efforts on the well-being of our students, adults we support and employees.

Sincerely,



Scott W. Evans
Executive Director