



March 15, 2020

Today we announce several important new steps we are taking to meet the challenge of COVID-19 for the staff in Arc Human Services and The Arc of Washington County, and the individuals whom we serve. In the current climate, the health and well-being of our entire community — including each of you — is at the forefront of our thinking.

The goal is to protect the health, safety, and well-being of our employees and individuals while allowing core operations to continue as best we can. One of the highest recommendations of the CDC is to limit group contact and meetings and thus we are taking steps to heed those recommendations.

Beginning Monday March 16, 2020, and until we communicate otherwise, all AHS/Arc of Washington County office employees who can work remotely should do so. Of course, any employee who has any symptoms of illness or has been in contact with any potentially infected person should stay home. In taking these steps, we hope to focus all of our efforts to support the staff in residential and community-based services, whether in direct support, providing supplies or reducing any other burdens/barriers on the staff providing direct support.

We are sending a letter to all of the families and guardians of the individuals that we serve, requesting that they not visit the group homes unless absolutely necessary. We are making every attempt to limit the opportunity of our direct support staff and individuals in their homes to contact the virus.

For those employees who must report to the office for any periods of time, we encourage implementation of standard precautions, social distancing and other best practices, and development of individualized workplans that minimize close contact by limiting time at the office to what is necessary and conducting meetings virtually. We should all be especially attentive to employees who may be at a higher risk for Covid-19.

Access to the office will be coordinated through a point person for each office as follows:

Meadowpointe – Mary Jo Podroskey, 724-745-3010 ext. 120

Workshop/Training Center - Jim Johnson, cell phone 724-678-5808

Beaver office - Tianda Childs, 724-843-3677 ext. 226 or cell phone 724-732-1261

Springdale - Rob Kelly, 724-715-7855

Brookville (Dubois) - Brandy Griffith, 814-715-7078

This is a challenging time for each of us, the people we serve, their families, the organization and our communities. We appreciate your commitment to our mission and your flexibility in the days and weeks ahead.

Please reach out with any questions or concerns you have.

Sincerely,

Ed Picchiarini
CEO Arc Human Services /Arc of Washington County

AAdvantage Inc.

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