



March 16, 2020

**Parents, Guardians, LARS, Service Coordinators
and members of the Mission Road Family:**

As we all know, there has been an outbreak of the coronavirus (COVID-19) in China that has spread to other countries including the United States. As of today's date, there are travel-related cases in Bexar County and San Antonio.

Rest assured that Mission Road is monitoring this virus through reliable sources, such as the San Antonio Metropolitan Health District, Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) and the Centers for Disease Control (CDC).

At this time, Health officials feel that the next three weeks are critical to reducing the risk of exposure. In order to do so we are closing our campus and community homes to visitors from March 17th – April 5th. This also includes the closure of our campus day services program and Unicorn Centers.

We strongly urge everyone to reschedule any face-to-face visits and choose other options to stay in contact, such as phone calls, video chat (if applicable), or a call to the resident's program/case manager or nurse.

If you wish to take a resident out of the home for a visit, we are asking that you keep them with you for 14 days, before returning them to the home. They also must be asymptomatic (free from fever and cough). The more social interactions and contacts an individual has the higher the risk for spreading COVID-19. These may appear to be very aggressive measures, however the importance of keeping our residents and employees healthy is our main priority.

On our south side campus, Unicorn Centers and all our community homes we take infection control procedures very seriously. The last thing we want is an outbreak of illness among our employees and the clients we serve.

Also, current information from the CDC and our local Health Department strongly recommend that we **ALL** take steps to protect ourselves against this virus, as we would the flu or any other respiratory infection:

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, use alcohol-based, (at least 60%) hand sanitizer. Remind and encourage friends and family to do the same.
- Regularly clean and disinfect surfaces and objects that you come in contact, such as tables, chairs, counters, door knobs, cell phones and any other objects that are handled frequently.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth
- Cover your mouth and nose with the inside of your elbow or tissue when you cough or sneeze.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick
- Seek medical attention if you are sick (fever and coughing)

Information on COVID-19:

- The San Antonio Metropolitan Health District has opened a **COVID-19 hot line** to answer questions about the virus. The hot line is available in English and Spanish. The number is 210-207-5779 (Monday-Friday 8:00 am to 5:00 pm). Information is also available online at:
www.sanantonio.gov/health/2019ncoronavirus. American Sign Language is available at this link: <http://sat.ahasalerts.com/ActiveAlerts.aspx?d=1334>
- Texas Department of State Health Services: <https://dshs.texas.gov>
- Centers for Disease Control: <https://www.cdc.gov/COVID19>

Thank you for your support of the Mission Road/Unicorn programs.

Lora Butler, President