



*Recognizing persons with intellectual developmental disabilities  
for their potential, not their limitations.*

July 29, 2020

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

In order to reduce the risk of exposure, to the Coronavirus, we announced the closure of our campus and community homes to visitors on March 16, 2020.

**With the surge in San Antonio continuing, with over 1,500 new cases just yesterday (July 28<sup>th</sup>), our city and our state continue to struggle against the Coronavirus. Current City statistics have us falling in the severe to critical risk level as the virus continues to spread. The federal government has listed Texas as one of 10 states in the “red zone for positivity,” with more than 10% of all tests resulting in a positive.**

The Governor’s Executive Order GA-23 dated May 18, 2020, states that: “In accordance with the Guidelines from the President and the CDC, people shall not visit nursing homes, state supported living centers, assisted living facilities, or long term care facilities unless to provide critical assistance as determined through guidance from the Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC).”

The Governor’s Report to Open Texas highlights the rapid increase of COVID-19 in long-term care facilities and urges a strong and consistent response in preventing the infection in those facilities.

**With all that said, we have decided, for the safety of everyone, to continue the closure of our campus and community homes through September 13, 2020. This includes the day programs (free.to.be. and Unicorn Centers).**

We hope that we can reopen our adult day programs, and reopen the campus and community homes to visitors, sometime in the near future. However, so much will depend on where Texas and the nation are regarding the containment of the virus.

All face-to face visits will need to be rescheduled or other options chosen to stay in contact, such as, video chat, emails and phone calls. Only employees and those providing critical assistance as determined through the guidance from the Texas Health and Human Services Commission are allowed entry. Please feel free to reach out to the resident’s program/case manager for information as well.

If you wish to take a resident out of the home for a visit, we ask 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 interactions and contacts an individual has the higher the risk for spreading COVID-19. The importance of keeping our residents and employees healthy is our main priority.

Infection control is essential to slowing the spread of this virus. As such, we take the following guidelines very seriously:

- 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.
- **Wear a mask or face covering**
- Regularly clean and disinfect surfaces and objects that you come in contact with, 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
- Practice social distancing
- Seek medical attention if you are sick

## Symptoms

Reported illnesses have ranged from mild symptoms to severe illness and death for confirmed coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) cases.

The following symptoms may appear 2-14 days after exposure (based on previous MERS-CoV virus incubation periods).

- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Chills
- Repeated shaking with chills
- Diarrhea
- Vomiting
- Lethargy
- Muscle pain
- Headache
- Sore throat

- Loss of taste or smell
- Feeling feverish or a measured temperature greater than or equal to 100.0 degrees Fahrenheit

## Resources

### COVID-19 Hotline

210.207.5779

Email: [COVID-19@sanantonio.gov](mailto:COVID-19@sanantonio.gov)

Mon. - Fri., 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Sat. & Sun., 8:30 AM – 12:00 PM

### FOUR WAYS TO SIGN UP FOR COVID-19 ALERTS

1. Download the [Ready South Texas app](#), available in the [iTunes](#) and [Google Play](#) stores
2. Text COSAGOV to 55000 to receive SMS text message updates
3. Follow @COSAGOV on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram
4. Bookmark [www.SanAntonio.gov](http://www.SanAntonio.gov)

Stay safe and be well,

Lora Butler, President

*"COVID-19 is now spreading at an unacceptable rate in the state of Texas, and it must be corralled," said Governor Abbott. "We have several strategies to reduce the spread without shutting Texas back down, but it is up to all of us to do our part to protect ourselves and others. We need all Texans to follow the safety protocols developed by our team of medical experts, including staying home if you are sick or at risk, sanitizing your hands, social distancing, and wearing face coverings or masks. COVID-19 hasn't gone away, but neither has our ability to slow the spread of it. Texans have shown that we don't have to choose between jobs and health—we can have both. We can protect lives while also restoring livelihoods. Together, we will keep Texans safe and will keep our state open for business."*