



June 26, 2020

Greetings to All!

It has been some time since we sent the last email, as we have been waiting for additional guidance or re-opening plans from IDPH and DHS. We appreciate your patience as it has been slow in coming. Meanwhile, we are getting outdoors and looking for ways to enjoy the summer as best we can.

You may already be aware that Day Programs will be closed through August 31st. The State anticipates that Day Programs will re-open in September, but we don't know yet what that will look like given the need for COVID-19 precautions.

We received notification / guidance late last week from the Illinois Department of Human Services (IDHS) that the additional funding we were receiving during COVID for the hours during the day that residents normally attend Day Program would end July 1st. In lieu of that, providers are encouraged to set up At Home Day Program which is a billable service to Medicaid. This applies to CILA's only. We are doing our best to prepare so that we can start services next week, and keep the required documentation for billing. We feel the structure will be beneficial overall, although the time-frame given to us to prepare and implement a new service is stringent. Many of the activities already going on during the day can be part of At Home Day Program. Some examples include exercise and walks, outdoor games, drives around the community (drive-through food pickup or outdoor grocery pickup), virtual learning (i.e. things like book club), cooking, discussion of current events etc. As we implement this, we will include the residents and care-givers (DSP's) in their choice of activities and learning opportunities.

Many of you have visited your loved one outdoors at the CILA. We encourage you to continue scheduling this through one of the case managers and taking advantage of this opportunity until home visits become a reality again. We know the time is getting long, and we are in weekly communication with other local provider agencies and tuned in to IDPH and IDHS for their guidance regarding re-opening time-frames. We will stay in touch and keep you informed as we are able to make further changes.

Feel free to call if you have questions, and thank you for your ongoing prayers for the health and safety of residents and staff.

Thank you,

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