



## Important Update re: COVID-19

*from Gil Fonger, President & CEO*

May 5, 2020, 2:00 p.m.

- **BLOOMINGDALE RESIDENT TESTS NEGATIVE FOR COVID**

A resident at the Marklund Philip Center (MPC) in Bloomingdale tested negative for the COVID-19 virus. After the resident presented symptoms last week, MPC's Medical Director recommended testing. Staff transported the resident to Central DuPage Hospital Emergency Department for a rapid test which came back negative. Further testing of the culture returned a few days later reaffirming the negative results.

Following the latest IDPH (Illinois Department of Public Health) guidelines, the resident had been isolated until the lab culture results returned.

- **SUMMER GAMES WILL BE MODIFIED**

Due to the ongoing COVID-19 concerns and the government's suggestions affecting large group gatherings, we will modify our 2020 Summer Games. Instead of being mass gatherings, each Marklund site will hold adapted games that will only involve residents and staff. We will post real-time videos and photos on our social media sites so that families/guardians and volunteers can view the progress and virtually share in the fun. Event dates are: Philip Center—Friday, June 5; Hyde Center, Saturday, June 13; Wasmond Center, Friday, June 26. More details to come.

- **RESIDENTIAL THERAPY PROGRAM:**

Throughout the Stay-at-Home order, our Therapy team has been able to provide some therapies, such as Music, Recreational, Speech and Occupational, via the Zoom video platform as well as through directions/guidance given to on-site direct care staff. In our attempt to gradually get back to regular routines, starting this week, therapists themselves will be back on-site directly treating for two days a week, and working remotely 3 days per week. As with all employees, all Therapy staff will wear masks at all times and be screened at the start of their shifts. Therapists, assistants, and aides will complete evaluations, run their therapy goals for residents, treat in small groups, and offer help to direct care staff as needed.

- **BONUSES FOR DIRECT CARE STAFF:**

The 10% bonus that is currently being given to essential/direct care staff because of the pandemic will continue through June 27. We will review the latest guidance from IDPH and DHS by mid-June and let everyone know if it will be extended past the end of June. Thank you for the wonderful care that you are continuing to give to those we serve during this difficult time. God bless you!

GILBERT FONGER, President & CEO

Questions for Gil Fonger? Call him at 630-593-5476 or email [gfonger@marklund.org](mailto:gfonger@marklund.org).