



May 7, 2020

Dear Parents and Guardians -

I hope this letter finds you and your families doing well during these unprecedented times in our society. While keeping the health, safety and well-being of your loved ones remains our top priority, I am emailing you today to provide you with some key Cape Abilities updates and information that align with our unwavering efforts to continually adapt and evolve in order to advance our mission.

- [Our program centers in Hyannis, Falmouth and Eastham will remain closed until further notice.](#)

While they are closed, we will continue to run our Residential Programs, deliver our Day Programs through a virtual service delivery model, operate our social enterprises, and continue our administrative work remotely.

As ordered by MA Governor Charlie Baker, May 18th is the current end-date for the state's stay-at-home advisory and emergency order closing non-essential businesses. Our program centers will remain closed through this date and, as of this email, we don't know when or if the state will extend these measures. Additional guidance from the State's Executive Office of Health and Human Services is expected next week. We will position our re-opening with the States' guidelines and coordinate this re-opening with other agencies, staff, parents, guardians, and the individuals we serve. We will notify you as soon as we have an update about this.

- [Our Day Habilitation team has implemented a twice-daily, online service model offering enjoyable, educational, and socially interactive activities for all Cape Abilities Day Habilitation participants.](#)

This virtual platform, designed and developed to continually meet the goals and objectives of our Day Hab program, is available online Monday thru Friday at 10am and 1pm.

To access these offerings, or if you or someone you know would like to participate in this program, please contact Jo Fennell at Jfennell@capeabilities.org or Jean West at jwest@capeabilities.org

- Throughout this COVID-19 crisis, it is our goal to be as transparent as possible when it comes to keeping you well informed and updated of any positive coronavirus test with the organization.

With this in mind, we want to inform you that one residential staff member who works in one of our homes recently tested positive for the COVID-19 coronavirus. Every parent and guardian of all residents within that home were notified immediately and provided with an update of test results. All other staff members in that same home were tested, and their results were negative. We are continuing to monitor this incident and will update you if the need arises.

- We are happy to announce that we will continue to pay all Cape Abilities staff, as well as Cape Abilities participants unable to work in our closed Social Enterprises, with 100% pay of their regularly scheduled hours through June 30, 2020.

Our continued goal is to keep our workforce intact and paid with benefits throughout this crisis. We recently received a Small Business Loan as part of the Federal CARES Act's Paycheck Protection Program; securing these funds through this forgivable loan program was a major accomplishment in our efforts to achieve this goal. We will continue to work with our funders, banks, Board of Directors, donors, vendors and other key stakeholders to ensure that our plan for keeping our entire workforce intact remains in place.

- Cape Abilities Farm is open for business!

All purchases are currently being made online at www.CapeAbilitiesFarm.org with curbside pick-up available.

Our goal is to open the **Cape Abilities Thrift Store** by June 1st and the **Cape Abilities Farm Store** in Chatham by July 1st at the latest. **Cape Abilities Vending** will remain closed until further notice.

- While the COVID-19 crisis has postponed the [2020 Cape Abilities Harbor Walk](#), we are happy to announce that our biggest fundraiser of the year has been re-scheduled to Saturday, September 26, 2020! We look forward to enjoying this wonderful day with you in the fall.
- We want to thank you for your generosity in supporting our [Adopt A Home campaign](#). To date, we have raised more than \$95,000! These are very trying times for all of us, but your support is going a long way toward enriching the quality of life for all of our residents, as they remain hunkered down in their homes with their loving staff and caregivers. Thank you for your ongoing support of this tremendous initiative.

Lastly, I'd just like to tell you how proud I am of our Cape Abilities staff, who have truly gone above and beyond to care for the individuals we serve. Their sacrifice for this agency does not go unnoticed, and we are grateful for their ongoing commitment to Cape Abilities. Although we are all dealing with these uncertain and challenging times, everyone at Cape Abilities is pulling together as a team to advance our mission. We WILL emerge from this situation stronger than ever.

In these times of social distancing, we remain committed to staying connected with our families and guardians and prioritizing the health, safety and well-being of their loved ones. If you have any ideas, questions or feedback for how we can improve doing this, please let me know.

In Service,



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COMPASSION



INCLUSION



INNOVATION



INTEGRITY



RESPECT
