March 13, 2020

Dear Community,

San Andreas Regional Center continues to monitor the situation with COVID-19 and we are implementing many of the recommendations from Public Health, the Center for Disease Control, and the Department of Developmental Services. We have cancelled all events through March 31st in all of our facilities and have asked people to not come in if they are ill or if they suspect that they may have been exposed. We all have a responsibility to help control the spread of this virus and to help prevent exposure to those who are most vulnerable.

Yesterday, the Department of Developmental Services issued three emergency declarations related to vendor billing; early start assessments and meeting requirements; and a 30-day order instructing regional centers keep medically compromised individuals at home and not send them to a program. We have been updating our website with information, including these directives. Please view them and other information on www.sarc.org and click on the Corona Virus Information and Resource Page.

We are aware that many schools have closed. If you require additional support, please contact your service coordinator to discuss additional services during this time. Many of the service providers are also under stress with their staffing so we encourage flexibility and advanced communication to ensure needs are understood and met.

If you choose to keep your loved ones from a program out of concern of exposure, then please communicate that decision to your service coordinator and to the program. They both need to know of your decision and of an anticipated return date.

You may have a scheduled meeting with your service coordinator over the next few weeks in which either you or the service coordinator may ask to complete the meeting over the phone or by video conference. We want everyone to be safe and if a meeting in this manner may be best. If you do agree to meet in person, then please ensure that you are healthy and not showing signs of illness. We have asked the same of our staff to ensure that we are doing our part to eliminate exposure.

If you have questions related to your services, please contact your service coordinator. If you have any general questions related to the emergency declarations, please email us at soe@sarc.org and we will do our best to get back to you in a timely manner.

This pandemic is challenging, and we all need to do our part to control and eliminate the spread. We thank you in advance and we wish you all the best and health.

Sincerely,

Javier Zaldívar
Executive Director
SARC events cancelled due to COVID-19
We will keep you informed of other meetings that are cancelled

3/14/20- Parent Support Groups
3/16/20- SARC Board Meeting
3/19/20- Self Determination Meeting
3/21/20- DVU/Autism Society Independent Facilitator Training
3/25/20- SPAC meeting

Do you have a meeting scheduled with your service coordinator either at home or here at SARC/community?

- If you are ill or think you are getting ill, then do not meet in person.
- Ask about services continuing until a new meeting can be scheduled
- Any in-person attendee showing signs of cold or flu symptoms will be politely asked to excuse themselves from the meeting and facility.
- If you are in the SARC office, then use hand sanitizer and wipes as needed

Are you Currently Sick or Experiencing Cold or Flu Symptoms?

- Do not attend the meeting in person.
- Please stay home and get well - help prevent the spread of illness. Consult with your physician as appropriate.
- For COVID 19, please consult with your physician and follow their directives around possible quarantine.
- About Washing Hands...
  - Use soap and water for at least 20 seconds and rinse thoroughly
  - After going to the bathroom
  - After blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing
  - Before and after eating