

March 18, 2020

Dear Families and Guardians:

We are writing to provide you with a brief update regarding the provision of care at Matheny Medical and Educational Center for our inpatients and group home residents during this challenging time. As always, each patient's and resident's needs are continuously evaluated by the interdisciplinary treatment team at Matheny so as to provide the most comprehensive care possible.

- All clinical services continue on all of the nursing zones and in the group homes.
- Necessary laboratory and clinical appointments will be kept; however, any laboratory and clinical appointments that can be safely postponed will be postponed.
- The Matheny Dental Clinic and Seating Clinic are currently closed for routine care, but are available for emergency appointments.
- Staffing at the hospital and group homes is safe and appropriate, and is constantly monitored.
- Matheny's Administration has been communicating regularly with staff regarding latest updates from the Centers for Disease Control, New Jersey State Government, and Division of Developmental Disabilities on the coronavirus and necessary precautions.
- An incident command structure is being created at Matheny, so as to be sure all areas of the organization are communicating and responding to needs immediately as they arise.
- Visitation at Matheny Hospital and Matheny group homes is completely restricted at this time in order to protect our patients and group home residents.

Matheny remains vigilant in its duty to safeguard and promote the welfare of those we serve. We wish to assure you that we are not only attuned to the medical care and physical welfare of our patients and group home residents, but also to the emotional and mental health of those served. In addition to the nursing and personal care assistant staff members on each zone and in each house, there are social workers, behaviorists/psychologists, adult instructors, and recreation, music, occupational, physical, and speech therapists assigned to provide care, emotional support, and activities. Efforts will be made to assist with communication between patients/residents and families/friends via telephone, computer, and Skype, as maintaining the bonds of love and support are absolutely crucial at this time.

If you have questions, concerns, or needs, please feel free to contact your social worker, or John Garrity, LCSW, Director of Social Services at x1235 or jgarrity@matheny.org. Thank you for your support as we strive to provide the best care possible to those special individuals whom we serve. We will continue to update you regularly.



Kendall R. Sprott, MD, JD - President and CEO