



Meeting Life's Challenges

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Dear Families & Friends:

On June 15, Governor Cuomo announced that COVID-19 restrictions have been lifted as 70% of adult New Yorkers have received at least their first dose of the COVID-19 vaccine. What does that news mean to Living Resources and to all we support? Broken down, it really does not mean much. As we have shared, Living Resources homes and day programs fall under the guidance of the NYS Office of Persons with Developmental Disabilities (OPWDD) and they have not released any new meaningful update to their COVID-19 restrictions.

The following guidelines still remain in place per OPWDD:

- 1) All staff (regardless of vaccination status) must remain masked while working in our homes or day programs;
- 2) All visits to the homes must continue to be scheduled (and visitation is not allowed in homes that are in mandatory quarantine or isolation) and all visitors must remain masked regardless of vaccination status;
- 3) Transportation is still limited to 50% capacity, which impacts our day community opportunity program and the amount of individuals we can support in-person logistically; and
- 4) Site-Based Day Programs must still provide six-foot distancing.

How can you help? Please take a moment today to contact your state Assembly and Senate representatives and urge them to force OPWDD to review their guidance. Also, you can reach out directly to OPWDD at 1-866-946-9733 to urge them to revisit their COVID-19 restrictions and allow your families the same access and normalcy that is provided to all New Yorkers.

Additionally, it is with a bit of sadness that I am informing all of you that Steve Klein, Associate Executive Director for Program Services, will be leaving Living Resources to become the executive director of Mohawk Opportunities in Schenectady, a nonprofit mental health services provider. His last day with us will be June 25th. While everyone here is disappointed to see Steve go, we also wish him the best of luck in his new and exciting endeavor!

Please know that we are putting a great deal of thought and care into our search for Steve's replacement and that process is underway, however, in the meantime, should you have any questions or concerns, please reach out to me at emartin@livingresources.org or 518-218-0000 x 5530.

Best regards for your health and safety,

Elizabeth Martin
Chief Executive Officer

