September 24, 2021

Dear Families & Friends:

As we have shared many times over the past 18 months, this pandemic has certainly taught us all that we need to be experts at pivoting. To-date, we are still unable to completely reopen all our programs due to the pandemic, the regulations surrounding supportive services, and the staffing crisis we are experiencing. Every day feels like there is a new challenge that awaits us and we know you are feeling this as well. We want you to know that we are committed to providing solutions to these challenges while continuing to meet our mission.

Over the past few months there has been a continual rise in positive COVID cases in our region. None of us are immune to this rise, and we have certainly seen a rise in positive diagnoses within our homes and our programs. We had hoped that we would not be in this place but we can’t fight this pandemic if we are not all on the same page and doing our best to protect everyone around us. **We do not want to once again shut our doors against visitation and/or decrease our services which is why our staff are mandated to wear a mask while working and why we are urging everyone to wear a mask when indoors around others and when social distancing is not possible.**

**Please get vaccinated!** We have been encouraging vaccination and continue to provide opportunities and incentives for staff members to get vaccinated. Currently, our staff member vaccination rate is ~65%. Based upon our communications with other area providers, this number is higher than those of similar organizations and we are hopeful that we will continue to see an increase in the number of staff members who elect to be vaccinated. We also hope, that as caring individuals and family members, if you are not yet vaccinated, we urge you to do so today!

**Please remember that we are all LIVING RESOURCES FAMILY!** We are in this together, and we appreciate your support and assistance.

As always, should you have any questions, 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