



JB Pritzker, Governor

Grace B. Hou, Secretary

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May 29, 2020

Dear Guardian/Family Member:

As most of the state moves into Phase 3 of the Restore Illinois plan, we are reaching out to you to provide an update regarding visitation at our State Operated Developmental Centers (SODCs). We know how stressful and difficult this has been for you and your loved one. We appreciate your support, patience and understanding during this difficult time.

At this time, we are still unable to allow visitation at our Centers. Long Term Care Facilities' Guidance from the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) specifically states that visitation should be restricted to essential individuals only. In consultation with IDPH, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and our own team of infectious disease medical specialists, we are committed to a plan that incorporates best practice for reintroducing visitation in the future. Of course, we will continue to facilitate visitation via telephone calls and other virtual means. Our SODCs will continue all infection control practices including, but not limited to, frequently cleanings of all sites, regularly wiping down surfaces, hand washing, wearing personal protective equipment, including masks, and maintaining social distancing. We also monitor and train all employees in infection control. If you have questions about educational actions taken for supporting your loved one, please contact your Center Director.

Please know we have the best interest of your loved one at the forefront of all decision making. We want to provide the safest plan for each of the centers. We will let you know when visitation guidelines have been approved and you will be provided a copy of these guidelines.

If you have any questions regarding this, please feel free to contact me. I can be reached via e-mail: Tiffany.Bailey@illinois.gov or by phone: 815-288-8376.

Allison Stark, Director of Developmental Disabilities
Tiffany Bailey, SODC operations