

June 26, 2020

“Perseverance is the hard work you do after you get tired of doing the hard work you already did.”

Dear Pathfinder Families,

Week 15, Day 5: This quote sums up how many of us feel at Pathfinder and I suspect many of you too. Today, the Mohawk Valley enters Phase 4 of New York Forward; at the same time Governor Cuomo has signed a Restriction Order to quarantine travelers entering New York from “hot spot” states where COVID-19 is spiking. This tells me that the Governor is focused on a steady, data-driven process while preserving the progress we have made. This conservative approach seems to be working and I suspect the Governor will continue this approach through 2020.

What does this mean for us? It’s hard to ascertain...all decisions pertaining to our programs come out of the Governor’s office. State agencies, like OPWDD, are radio silent. In addition, I routinely share our thinking and practices with other directors throughout the state and we all seem to be in the same boat, rowing in the same direction. My opinion is we will remain in some form of restricted operations through 2020. In the meantime, we were informed of an upcoming COVID-19 audit. The state has requested copies of all our COVID-related policies and procedures. Never a dull moment.

In spite of all this, Pathfinder management and front-line staff continue to work beyond these limitations to deliver creative, compassionate supports for your family member. This week, Day Services hosted a simulated café in The Commons. Residents practiced physical distancing and wearing masks...and they did fantastic! In-person medical appointments have resumed, and the nursing staff report all is well. With near perfect weather, residents are enjoying time outside throughout the campus. Yesterday, I walked by Butternut House and all the guys were on the deck singing and dancing to karaoke...it doesn’t get much better than that!

The Enrichment Depart has organized a July 4th parade. Scheduled for July 1st, PV staff will parade around the residential quad dressed in costumes with noisemakers and music, while residents spectate from their front lawn and steps. Who doesn’t love a good parade?!

The Pavilion renovation is complete, just in time for family visits next week! The Kennedy Willis Center Werber Deck is being upgraded, Village roads and parking lots have a fresh coat of sealer, trees and shrubs are all trimmed...our Village looks spectacular!

I look forward to seeing many of you soon as you visit your family member on campus.

Have a great weekend. Be healthy, be kind, be patient.



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“ that each life may find meaning”[®]