



July 28, 2020

Dear Pathfinder Families,

**Week 20 is in the books!** Pathfinder remains COVID free...MLB is back...on-campus family visits continue with great success. Thank you families for supporting this effort!

Home Visits have started. Thank you families for cooperating and following our visit protocols. The Café opened last week with window service and, so far, so good! Residents will be enjoying the café window service in the coming weeks and they are ready! After weeks of simulated new-normal-COVID-life-scenarios, it's time for the real life bakery experience! Pathfinder Day Services is scheduled to re-open August 3rd. Lots going on in the Village!

On the state level, 31 states are presently on the New York state travel advisory list:

- Alaska
- Alabama
- Arkansas
- Arizona
- California
- Delaware
- Florida
- Georgia
- Iowa
- Idaho
- Indiana
- Kansas
- Louisiana
- Maryland
- Missouri
- Mississippi
- Montana
- Nebraska
- New Mexico
- Nevada
- North Carolina
- North Dakota
- Ohio
- Oklahoma
- South Carolina
- Tennessee
- Texas
- Utah
- Virginia
- Washington
- Wisconsin

This is based upon a seven-day rolling average of positive tests in excess of 10%, or the number of positive cases exceeding 10 per 100,000 residents. This will create a challenge for some Pathfinder families for visitations. There is a regional increase in positive cases, far more than the beginning of all this. There are many theories on the cause, but we feel it is due to in-and-out travel. Our region, like many EU countries, shut down over 90% at the beginning of the pandemic which resulted in a zero baseline of cases. With summer, we witness an increase in community activities and people coming and going from the region. Most of the confirmed cases have been a result of this movement. The pandemic situation seems to be in the 3rd inning of a 9-inning ball game! I'm glad Pathfinder has held firm to a more conservative approach with respect to our activities. For more information on the NY State Travel Advisory, please visit <https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/covid-19-travel-advisory>.

*“ that each life may find meaning”<sup>®</sup>*

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A local I/DD provider had a positive COVID-19 case last week, exposing many staff and individuals. This is a sobering reminder that despite our small numbers in the region, the virus is here!

ARC Otsego plans to open their day services on August 3rd. After several discussions and reviews of their opening plan, we are NOT recommending returning Pathfinder residents to the ARC programs at this time. The following variables affected our decision:

- ARC will not provide transportation
- Residents are required to wear a mask the entire day (with breaks)
- Residents will have to stay in one room, in a taped off area for most, if not all, day
- Residents will be co-mingled with other participants from the community in the building, and
- This opening would expose Pathfinder residents to additional caregivers

We plan to open Pathfinder Day Services August 3rd in the following manner:

**FARMHOUSE:**

- Monday - Friday
- Day Hab Services
- Local community participants ONLY
- PV staff identified to work at this site ONLY

**COMMONS:**

- Days vary
- Pre-vocational services
- Produce Market work activities
- Limited number of pathfinder and community workers (maximum is 6 total)
- PV staff identified to work at this site ONLY

**MILL CREEK:**

- Days vary
- Day Habilitation services
- PV residents ONLY, BY HOUSE (no co-mingling)
- PV staff identified to work at this site ONLY

Additionally, residents will wear masks (as tolerated) and there will be no community outings at this time.

On the tournament and fundraising front, we held out as long as we could but we did finally make it official: The Golf Invitational and Chobani Tennis events are cancelled for 2020. You should receive letters from both committees detailing the cancellations. This is a sad outcome, but we look forward to 2021!

**Wednesday, July 29th marks Pathfinder's official 40th Anniversary!** We will enjoy a Village-wide (but socially distant, house-by-house) party to celebrate! Thanks to Gary at the Bakery, who will provide each house with cupcakes; Chris in the kitchen, who will provide pizza for all, and Paula and the Enrichment crew who will provide all the decorating supplies so that each house can decorate and celebrate in style! The School will celebrate during the day with different activities too. The day will kick off with a very special ringing of the Chapel Bell. Look out for pictures on Facebook and Instagram! Lastly, we have updated our COVID-19 sign at the Village entrance to, "YOU CAN DO THIS...we believe in you!" This message not only applies to our staff and residents, but our families and the local community as well! WE CAN DO THIS!

Below are some pictures from recent family visits to Pathfinder. The reunions have been amazing!



**A happy visit for Linda and her parents**

**A relaxing visit from the entire Duffy crew!**



Be healthy, be kind, be patient.

Paul C. Landers, President & Chief Executive Officer

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