June 3, 2020

Dear Parents and Guardians:

We truly miss you and hope that you and your family members continue to stay healthy and safe during this COVID-19 pandemic. Like you, we are eagerly awaiting news on when our day programs can reopen and what that might look like.

As we entered Phase 1 of Reopening Massachusetts, the only definitive information we received regarding day programs was that they were not included in this phase and that the state would continue to evaluate when they could safely expand services in subsequent phases to include day offerings.

Our administrative staff continues to closely monitor all EOHHS and DDS communications and participate in calls with our funding agencies and trade associations to ensure we have the most up-to-date information and are fully prepared to open once we do receive the go-ahead.

In the interim, I hope that you have been able to participate in some of the remote learning/programming offered by our day habilitation and community based day services (CBDS) programs.

Day Habilitation (ECE and DEP) is currently offering:

- Two daily Zoom sessions at either 10am or 11am and 12:30pm. Topics range from social skills, wellness (chair yoga), health topics, sensory/culinary and games.

- Weekly check-ins at 10am on M/W/F by caseload with individual program managers. These are smaller group settings which allow for greater participation for individuals who may feel less comfortable interacting in the larger group.

- Schedules and materials sent out each Friday including login information.

- Contact Amy Downing, Director of Day Habilitation, by email or phone (781-422-3474 ext. 1105) for more information.
Our CBDS program - The Center for Career and Community Exploration (CCEC) is currently offering:

- Three daily Zoom sessions at 10am, 11am & 1pm, Monday through Friday. (The 10am session is perfect for someone who has not previously participated in one of our sessions, because it includes a review of upcoming activities.)

- A weekly schedule of offerings sent out on Fridays for the next week including login information.

- Activity kits to support any material needs for upcoming sessions.

- Contact Akari Hayashi, Director of Day Services, by email or phone (781-293-5461 ext. 134) for more information.

We will continue to monitor all public health advisories with the hope that programming will return as soon as safely possible. Please reach out to the program directors referenced above if you have any questions - I know they would be happy to hear from you!

Stay well,

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P.S. Updates and resources are also posted on our website – www.newenglandvillage.org.