



August 20, 2020

Dear Parents and Guardians,

In my 8/7/2020 communication to you, I mentioned that we were carefully considering whether we could partially reopen our day programs by the end of the month. Since then, our leadership team has evaluated various options and configurations consistent with social distancing requirements, but each led to the same conclusion – the current choices available to us do not yet allow for a safe reopening. Thus, our day programs will not be reopening in August.

We are acutely aware of the hardship closed day programs may present for some of our individuals-supported and their families, and we promise to continue to work towards finding a way to responsibly reopen. Everything from alternate program sites to staffing models is being considered; yet, we are still missing written guidance from MassHealth, which is integral to our decision making process.

We look toward September with anticipation that state guidance becomes clearer and a safe path forward is more attainable. Once we are comfortable that we can **keep the men and women entrusted to our care out of harm's way**, we can begin the reopening process. We will continue to keep you informed. Thank you for your understanding and support.

Be well,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "M. Rodrigues", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Michael A. Rodrigues  
President and CEO  
781-293-5461, ext. 111  
[mrodrigues@newenglandvillage.org](mailto:mrodrigues@newenglandvillage.org)