

LARC

SERVING PEOPLE WITH DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

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June 21, 2021

Re: Community Day Services Reopening

Dear Families & Guardians,

We are excited to announce that on Tuesday, July 6, 2021, we will enter the next phase of the reopening of the Community Day Services program. The Department of Human Services/Division of Developmental Disabilities and the Department of Public Health have issued guidance that is the foundation of our plan.

During the pandemic, many asked the question, “When can we get back to normal and just what will the new normal look like?”; the answer is that there is a “new normal” and it is not what we are used to.

LARC is strongly recommending and encouraging that all our staff and clients become vaccinated. Currently, 54% of staff and 65% of all clients are fully vaccinated. Therefore, ask each of you not vaccinated, to schedule an appointment to start the vaccination process, unless there is a medical reason preventing your family member from becoming vaccinated.

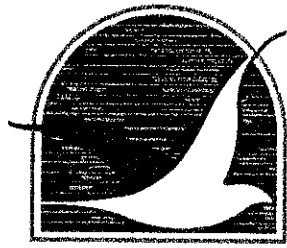
Vaccination status is important because it dictates how we can provide CDS services. IDHS/DDD and IDPH allow for those fully vaccinated to refrain from social distancing both inside and out. This will allow us to integrate home-based and CILA clients who are fully vaccinated. Those unvaccinated will still be required to follow social distancing guidelines, thus we will be limited in the number of unvaccinated clients we can serve in CDS to ten (10) individuals a day. Additionally, community integration outings will be limited for those unvaccinated due to social distancing guidelines in vehicles.

I ask that you please read through our summary of the plan, “LARC’s Reopening Plan for July 6, 2021.” Please feel free to contact me directly with any questions, or to discuss your concerns. I can be reached at (708) 474-1540, or you can email me at egonzalez@larclansing.com.

As always, stay safe and healthy, and thank you for being part of the LARC family.

Sincerely,

Ernie Gonzalez
Executive Director



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LARC's Re-Opening Plan for July 6, 2021

Welcome back!!! After what has been a very long year, we are excited to welcome everybody back to the Community Day Services program at LARC. Things are going to look a little bit different than what everyone was used to but we hope that the changes will provide a meaningful day to the individuals that we serve. Please know that we take the health and safety of the individuals at LARC very seriously and we will continue to implement health and safety precautions.

Health and Safety Precautions:

- All clients, staff, and visitors entering the building will have their temperature taken and recorded. They will only be allowed entry if their temperature is below 100.3 degrees. Any client with a temperature of 100.3 degrees or above will be escorted to the nurse's office where he/she will wait to be transported back home. Any client with a temperature of 99.0 degrees or above will be escorted to the nurse to be assessed.
- Everyone will be encouraged to either wash their hands or use hand sanitizer upon arrival.
- Everyone (regardless of vaccination status) is required to wear their mask while indoors.
- Any individual requiring hands-on-assistance, where maintaining 6-feet of space is not possible, will be required to receive the covid-19 vaccine in order to attend the CDS program.
- Per guidance from the Illinois Department of Human Services, unvaccinated individuals must maintain 6-feet of distance between each other.
- Per guidance from the Illinois Department of Human Services, unvaccinated individuals must sit in staggered rows (one individual per seat, per row) while being transported. Because of this standard, LARC will not be able to transport unvaccinated individuals to/from community outings. We welcome all individuals to join us on outings, but transportation will have to be provided and/or arranged by the family if the individual wants to participate. For individuals unable to participate, we will offer an alternative activity at the community day services program.
- Unvaccinated individuals will be required to present a negative covid-19 test prior to returning to the program if they are returning for the first time. The test must be taken within 14-days prior to the individual's return.
- If an unvaccinated individual exhibits covid-19 symptoms, he/she must remain at home for ten (10) days or until he/she is symptom-free for 72-hours (3 full days) without the

use of fever-reducing or other symptom-altering medicines (e.g.; cough suppressants). They must present a negative covid-19 test result before returning to the program.

- Per guidance from the Illinois Department of Human Services, large lunch gatherings are discouraged. Therefore, individuals will eat lunch in their programming areas. Tables will be disinfected before and after eating lunch.
- Hand sanitizer and disinfecting materials will be available in all programming areas.
- At the end of the programming day, all tables, chairs, bathrooms and equipment will be disinfected.

Schedule and Programming:

- Mondays – Fridays 9:00 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. for all individuals.
- Individuals will be in small groups with at least one staff person per group.
- Programming topics will include, but are not limited to, Gardening, Independent Living, Career Exploration, Self-Advocacy, Technology, Art, Music, Self-Expression, Cooking, Nutrition/Wellness, and Community Integration.
- Individuals will not be earning a paycheck by coming to LARC. However, we will work with individuals interested in increasing their job skills and support them in seeking community employment.

Lunch:

- Individuals will have a lunch break from 12:00 p.m. – 12:30 p.m.
- Individuals will have lunch in their programming areas with staff support and supervision.
- Sharing food or drinks is not permitted.
- LARC does not have vending machines available at this time.
- Microwaves are available for use.

Arrival and Departure:

- All individuals living in their family homes will arrive and depart from the lunchroom door. Staff persons will be available at this door for check-in/out.
- All individuals living in a LARC CILA will arrive and depart from the door with the awning by Room A. Staff persons will be available at this door for check-in/out.