

## **ACS Corona Virus Preparedness Update – December 21<sup>st</sup>, 2020**

### **Dear ACS Families, Friends, and Community Partners,**

We want to take the opportunity, as this year is coming to a close, to express our gratitude to each of you as we have navigated many changes in response to COVID-19. 2020 has certainly not turned out how any of us would have imagined, and we are proud of the success we have experienced in providing services throughout these challenging conditions. Thank you for the trust you have placed in our team to provide for your loved ones.

### **Christmas and New Year's Eve**

As many of you are aware, we have adjusted the holiday hours this year and our day service hubs will be closed on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. We look forward to celebrating the Christmas holiday with all participants who attend on December 23<sup>rd</sup> and we are looking forward to a visit from Jolly Ole Saint Nick via Zoom.

We will be open regular business hours on New Year's Eve and closed New Year's Day. We know that many of our clients and staff had to make alternative plans over Thanksgiving foregoing family traditions. This was difficult for MANY of us. As recommended, we encourage similar considerations for Christmas and New Year's celebrations in a hope that we will soon see an end to these conditions.

### **Vaccinations**

We are still monitoring the roll out of vaccinations and where social service providers are at in terms of priority. The CDC has left the details of distribution to each state's discretion. Currently, first responders and hospital workers are being offered the vaccination. Hospitals are reporting that they may be well into January before all critical hospital workers can be vaccinated.

We will reach out again once we have a better understanding as to when vaccinations, for our staff and the people we serve, will be made available which may be at different times. We believe at this time, most of the people we serve will work with their residential providers. Please reach out to us if your only services through DSPD are with our Day Hubs.

### **Moving forward...**

We believe, as an agency, the precautions we have in place have been effective. While we continue to heed the recommendations of the local health department, CDC, DHS and other contributing agencies we will continue to make adjustments as necessary.

To those who have not been attending or utilizing services, you are missed, and thought of often. We look forward to your return and will be happy to discuss plans for re-enrollment as you are ready to do so.

We wish you the very best for a safe, healthy, and happy Holiday Season!