



UCP SEGUIN – SPECIAL UPDATE ON COVID-19

April 27, 2020

Dear UCP Seguin Staff, Families, Foster Parents, and Friends,

We are now going into our sixth week of sheltering in place in Illinois due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Governor Pritzker has just extended the stay at home order through the end of May, with a few small adjustments. While this extension presents continued challenges for us all, for UCP Seguin it is of primary importance that we prevent the coronavirus from spreading, and take actions vital to the well-being of the entire UCP Seguin community.

Due to this new order, our Community Day Services sites across the Greater Chicago area will remain closed for services to program participants through May. Dedicated staff and adult foster parents continue to provide around-the-clock supports to individuals who reside in our CILA group homes. Staff are doing periodic tele-check-ins with individuals residing with families or their own homes. Schools remain closed as well, as foster children continue to receive nurturing care from our foster parents. UCP Seguin staff are providing a range of services – medical monitoring, behavioral supports, life skills training, enrichment classes, transition services, and more – remotely through tele-communications. We provide on-site job coaching for those individuals employed in "essential" service work, making sure that participants practice proper social distancing and hygiene on the job. Our Infnitec assistive technology and training initiative provides online learning and training resources, including many related to disease prevention and management, to educators, students, parents, and adult service providers. Seguin Gardens & Gifts has taken online orders with curbside pick-up, and will now open for business under social distancing protocols established by the State. Seguin Auto Center has systematically cleaned agency and other vehicles. Food Hub staff receive food donations and dutifully distribute them to our group and foster homes.

As the crisis has ensued, we have made adjustments related to program delivery when deemed necessary. We are monitoring and addressing the financial impact of the pandemic on UCP Seguin. But most of all we continue to implement and adjust practices to ensure the health, safety, and well-being of everyone we serve and their families, our staff and foster parents, and the community-at-large.

Our COVID-19 Task Force and its sub-groups continue to meet daily to manage this crisis and have the most up-to-date information at all times.

The following data is current as of April 26, 2020:

EMPLOYEE SCORECARD as of 4/26/20

Employee confirmed COVID-19	8
Employee exposed to COVID-19	53
Employee unknown of they were exposed to COVID-19	2
Employee is not coming to work because they are concerned about a potential exposure	4
Employee unable work due to childcare/school closures	16
Employee unable work due to pre-existing medical issues	27
Employee presented at work with a fever or other symptoms and was sent home	9
Employee filed for Unemployment	31
Employees needing re-assignment but refused and are not working	11
Employees willing to be reassigned but we were unable to reassign	6
Total number of employees off of work related to COVID-19	136

ADULT SERVICES SCORECARD as of 4/26/20

Adult participants confirmed COVID-19 Roselle – 1 (lives independently in own apartment) Naperville- 2 (live in own condos with drop in staff support)	9
Adult participants exposed to COVID-19	25
Adult participants with a fever	0
Adult participants with other COVID-19 symptoms	2
Adult participants that went to the ER or Urgent Care since 3/22/20	22 (1 person has been to the ER three times)

CHILDRENS FOSTER CARE as of 4/26/20

Children confirmed COVID-19	0
Children exposed to COVID-19	2
Children foster parent or household member confirmed COVID-19	0
Children foster parent or household member exposed to COVID-19	1
Children foster parent or household member with a fever	1
Children foster parent or household member that went to the ER	None known
Children foster parent or household member with COVID-19 symptoms	None known

On the financial front, UCP Seguin continues to receive payments, on time, from the Department of Human Services (DHS). The temporary rate enhancements awarded by DHS will help to offset some of our costs, but as of right now, UCP Seguin and other employers with more than 500 employees will not be eligible for much of the financial relief as outlined in the federal CARES Act. We may be able, however, to defer payment of social security taxes for the time being but will be required to re-pay them beginning December of 2021. This short-term deferment will help us in the immediate in terms of cash flow. At the same time, due to the pandemic we project costs well in excess of revenues through the end of the fiscal year in June, resulting in a projected shortfall of \$800,000 or more.

As we have previously indicated, to address this projected shortfall in mid-March we instituted the UCP Seguin COVID-19 Emergency Fund. To date we have raised \$300,000 from nearly 400 donors. We recently were presented “challenges” from The Coleman Foundation and an anonymous donor – the 2nd such challenge from this same donor. Through June 1st Coleman will match every donation dollar-for-dollar up to \$25,000. Through June 30th the anonymous donor will match every gift dollar-for-dollar up to \$25,000. These donations will address the added costs of staffing our group and foster homes, PPE and other emergency supplies, telecommunications equipment for remote training and therapy, and our Infinitic online services to educators, students, parents, and adult service providers. Contributions can be made online at our website: https://ucpseguin.org/get_involved/donate-to-the-covid-19-emergency-fund.html

And we continue to be blessed with in-kind donations of protective fabric masks and other emergency supplies. During these immensely difficult times we are truly humbled by the amazing generosity of the UCP community.

On April 16th we reported the sad news of the passing of one of our dedicated employees, who was infected with COVID-19 and succumbed to the virus after an over two-weeks’ battle. Sharonda Armstrong’s passing is a great loss to her family, her co-workers, and the individuals to whom she provided loving support for so many years. She is greatly missed. Service arrangements for Sharonda are as follows:

Brian P. Pickett Funeral Home
5301 W. Madison St. Chicago, IL 60644
Visitation: Thursday, April 30th, 4:00pm – 8:00 pm
(773) 413-7774

In an attempt to minimize in-person attendance and to keep people safe, the funeral home is offering a Live-Stream to Sharonda’s service. Please contact the funeral home on April 30th for information regarding accessing the link.

We continue to be incredibly proud of the hard work and commitment of all of UCP Seguin’s staff and foster parents. We are especially grateful for your support, and for continuing to keep yourselves and all of us safe by following public health protocols and agency guidelines. The raw numbers reported each day by Governor Pritzker sometimes do not have much context, so it is hard to conclude that things are better. Nevertheless, we continue to believe wholeheartedly that our collective efforts are having positive impact, as together we minimize the risk of exposure and contain this aggressive virus.

#weareallinthistogether
#strongestwhenweworktogether
#proudtobepartofucpseguin

Be Well,



Michelle Sanders
VP of Organizational
Management



John Voit
President/CEO



Jim Haptonstahl
Executive Vice President

COVID-19 Task Force
Spokesperson

UCP Seguin of Greater Chicago |
ucpseguin.org

