



## UCP SEGUIN – SPECIAL UPDATE ON COVID-19

### March 21, 2020

**Good Morning, UCP Seguin Community,**

I am writing to you to provide a short summary of Governor J.B. Pritzker's top messages during the press conference on the COVID-19 crisis held Friday afternoon March 20<sup>th</sup> (link to press conference in its entirety below).

<https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=KRzX9NCD2s>

As we had expected, Gov. Pritzker has ordered a statewide **"Shelter in Place"** order for all of Illinois that goes into effect on **Saturday, March 21<sup>st</sup> at 5:00 p.m.**, continuing through **April 7<sup>th</sup>**. The order will be re-assessed at that time to determine extending it as appropriate. The intent of this order is to contain the transmission of COVID-19 and avert a significant worsening of this public health crisis.

What this order means is:

You are **not** on "lockdown".

In Illinois, you are **allowed** to leave your home for needs such as:

- Health and Safety needs: seeking emergency services, going to the doctor, picking up medications
- Going shopping to purchase or pick up/obtain food, cleaning supplies, hygiene supplies, or to obtain supplies you need if you will be working at home;
- Going for walks, going for a hike, bike riding, running. This includes going to public parks and open recreation areas EXCEPT for playgrounds;
- Going to work where you provide essential products and services, which staff and foster parents of UCP Seguin do! ☑
- Taking care of family members, friends, or others that need your assistance including help with transportation needs.

What's open? (some examples)

- Essential Services will remain open, including banks, grocery stores, hardware stores, pharmacies, gas stations, medical offices, hospitals, veterinary clinics will remain open;
- Highways and local roadways will remain open;
- Public parks and open recreation areas may be open but some facilities closed at the discretion of each jurisdiction;
- Law enforcement, first responders, and offices that provide government programs and services will remain open;

- You can still order restaurants that are serving food - delivery or takeout ONLY.

What's closed? (some examples)

- Dine-in restaurants;
- Bars and nightclubs;
- Entertainment venues;
- Gyms and fitness studios;
- Public events and gatherings;
- Convention centers;
- Licensed child care centers and all childcare homes serving more than six (6) kids.

For more detailed information, please

visit <https://www.google.com/amp/s/www.nbcchicago.com/news/local/what-you-can-and-cannot-do-during-a-stay-at-home-or-shelter-in-place-order/2241024/%3famp>

Governor Pritzker was clear at his press conference in stating that RUMORS CIRCULATING OF THE NATIONAL GUARD OR OTHER MILITARY INTERVENTION TO IMPOSE THIS SHELTER IN PLACE ORDER ARE **FALSE**. MARTIAL LAW WILL **NOT** BE USED TO ENFORCE THE ORDER.

Important to mention is that Governor Pritzker talked about the passing on and forwarding of FALSE information related to COVID-19. Some of this information *seems like* it COULD BE TRUE! I have received a few pieces of false information in the last few days myself and, had I not checked the facts, it would have been easy to subscribe to the information.

There are some posts being circulated on Twitter, Facebook, Instagram and other social media platforms that are *simply untrue*. In some cases, the posts are being sent via text message/screen shots to people from "reliable sources" – from friends, family members, or other people we trust. However, that does not mean that we should automatically believe what we are sent.

The need to **FACT CHECK** information before you believe it and send it on is crucial. As we all know, information travels quickly (and particularly if it is dramatic information) and can be a precursor to inappropriate responses and behavior. To check facts before you post, share, or pass on information, please visit one of these reputable fact-checking websites:

Snopes.com: [www.snopes.com](http://www.snopes.com)

FactCheck.org: [www.FactCheck.org](http://www.FactCheck.org)

PolitiFact: [www.PolitiFact.com](http://www.PolitiFact.com)

Thomson Reuters: [www.thomsonreuters.com](http://www.thomsonreuters.com)

We will continue to provide updates as this crisis ensues, but please keep yourself informed by logging into websites that maintain current and accurate information about COVID-19, including its signs and symptoms and when you should seek medical treatment. You can access current information by clicking on the following links:

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: [www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov)

Illinois Department of Public Health: [www.idph.state.il.us](http://www.idph.state.il.us)

In the meantime, our UCP Seguin direct support staff, adult and children's foster parents, and other "first responders" continue to be diligent and especially attentive to the

health, safety and well-being of the children and adults with disabilities under our care.

We will get through this crisis together, day by day.

Be Well.



Michelle Sanders  
Vice President of Organizational Management  
[msanders@seguin.org](mailto:msanders@seguin.org)  
708.222.4255

UCP Seguin of Greater Chicago | [ucpseguin.org](http://ucpseguin.org)

