



350 S. Washington Street PO Box 271 Herkimer, NY 13350
P: (315) 574-7000 F: (315) 866-8339 E: info@archerkimer.org
www.archerkimer.org

Dear Arc Herkimer families,

The Office for People With Developmental Disabilities (OPWDD) has directed all providers to temporarily **suspend operations of site-based day programs beginning March 17, 2020 at 5:00pm. This includes Washington Street, Gail W. Brown Center, Group 6 and the Senior Center.**

There are **no confirmed cases of COVID-19 in any of our programs at this time.** We continue to monitor all guidance from local, state and federal agencies, and when necessary, will communicate with you as the situation develops.

We realize the impact this has on our families, staff and the people we support, however it is critical we take action to limit the spread of illness. We appreciate your understanding as we work together to ensure the health and safety of our community.

We are making every effort to minimize the disruption of services and the emotional impact of evolving restrictions for the people we serve under unprecedented circumstances. We are working with each family to determine your needs during this time. We will be able to provide alternate day programming as needed. Please call (315) 574-7000 and ask for a member of the Supports & Services Administration Team to discuss needed services.

Arc Herkimer continues to emphasize best practices for infection control at all our sites. We are actively working with The Arc New York, the Office for People with Developmental Disabilities (OPWDD), and state and local health departments to develop response plans and procedures that prioritize the health and safety of our families, individuals and staff, while minimizing disruption of essential services.

All of us at Arc Herkimer remain committed to serving our families in these challenging times. If you have concerns about meeting the immediate support needs of your loved one, please call the **Arc Herkimer COVID HOTLINE at (315) 574-7655** and we will work to identify alternative solutions.

We thank you for your continued patience and partnership.

Sincerely,

Lorene Bass
Executive VP of Services & Supports

