



**Concerning COVID-19 and the Winter Months  
November 18<sup>th</sup>, 2020**

We're writing with some updates on programming during the winter months, as well as some optimism that we are moving toward a world not overwhelmed by COVID-19. Please note that as of now we plan to offer a full schedule of classes via Zoom on any days where in-person attendance is affected by snow.

**For Those Attending In-Person**

Maintaining schedules for in-person services is important for continuity of care, personal routines, and effectiveness of programming. We understand that there may be times when persons served are unable to be on-site at the program. On days persons served are unable to attend on-site, we ask that you please make every effort to engage in at least two of our remote program sessions through Zoom.

These robust remote class schedules are posted weekly on our private ASPiRE! Facebook page, available only to persons served, their families, and residential providers. To access this private page, please visit <https://www.facebook.com/groups/aspirecommunitygroup> to request access. If you need to be out, please notify the program. We can email the Zoom schedule with links to you for easy, instant access. Please be sure to provide us with your preferred email address.

**For Those Attending Remotely**

**To maintain your place on the roster, you must maintain regular weekly contact with the program.** One strategy that many have found effective is to attend Zoom sessions on at least three different days per week. We offer 30+ Zoom sessions each week, from 8:00am through 4:00pm Monday-Friday. We encourage regular review of our weekly Zoom schedules to identify and plan ahead for classes of particular interest. Again, these robust remote class offerings are posted weekly on our private ASPiRE! Facebook page, available only to persons served, their families, and residential providers. To access this private page, please visit <https://www.facebook.com/groups/aspirecommunitygroup> to request access.

In addition to the more than 30 Zoom sessions offered to all persons served by ASPiRE!, each program location is providing site-specific sessions, where individuals can interact with friends and familiar staff in smaller groups. Please contact your respective program director for more information. For those unable to attend remote classes through Zoom, it is essential that you participate in weekly phone or video chats with your day program. Failure to maintain contact per our funder guidance may result in termination of services.

**For All**

Encouraged by recent reports of trials progressing toward a vaccine, we are hopeful the springtime will see us looking beyond COVID-19. Until then, we ask that you maintain contact and engage remotely when not attending on-site. Our focus is supporting continued progress toward service plan goals and objectives, through COVID-19 and beyond.

**Best,**

**Jay Hayston, LP.D, MBA | Vice President**

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#### Primary Program Contacts

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- **Devens Community Based Day and Employment Supports**
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- **Devens Day Habilitation**
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- **Employment Services (including independent employment supports, Pre-ETS, CIES, and SES)**
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- **Goddard Memorial Drive, Worcester Day Habilitation**
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