

S^D Associates LLC

To: NVT S^D Families
Date: 9.3.2020

Dear S^D families,

We made it through the reopening and the summer and we are really impressed with how well our staff, clients and families did in adapting to all the changes. Thank you! We apologize up front for the length of this email. We have been trying to hold all information in one place to share at once so you did not receive multiple emails from us while making sure the information we were giving to was accurate. Thank you for taking the time to read through and getting us back the necessary paperwork.

We have updated our exposure plan ([click here](#)) to reflect new guidance from the CDC and VT Dept of Health. You will see there is new screening questions below. You or your child will need to answer No to all of these with the only exception being a documented ailment by a medical professional. We apologize, but we received further communication with the VT Dept of Health and they were clear that we cannot make discriminations or exceptions to these questions.

- In the past 14 days have you had close contact with a person confirmed to have COVID-19?
- Have you traveled outside of VT since last coming to work? What type of travel? What county and state?<https://www.healthvermont.gov/response/coronavirus-covid-19/traveling-vermont>
Does the VT Dept of health guidance say you have to quarantine? Yes or No
- In the past 24 hours have you had a fever (100.4 F or higher) or been using fever reducing meds?
- Do you have any of the following symptoms?
 - Cough
 - Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
 - Chills
 - Fatigue
 - Muscle pain or aches
 - Headaches
 - Sore throat
 - New loss of taste or smell
 - Congestion or runny nose
 - Nausea or vomiting
 - Diarrhea

Your Behavior Analyst will be in touch tomorrow if you have not been in services this summer to confirm your pre-screening procedure. We recognize this is going to potentially create situations where your child is available for program with a minor symptom but still will not be able to participate/access in person programming. We will be prepared to move to remote sessions in these situations and will create these situations as needed. Also, we have worked extremely hard to develop pods and back up staffing, but still anticipate that these stringent prescreening questions will create situations where staff will be unable to work and we may be in situations where we are unable to provide coverage for that staff. Please know these are situations outside of our control and your kindness is appreciated.

Our COVID Protocols are outlined in the exposure plan and depending on if you have been receiving services this summer you may have seen them in other places. We are asking all families whose child will be served in our BUILDINGS (Williston, Montpelier and Georgia) to please read and sign the Acknowledgment and Affirmation of COVID-19 Protocols for S^D Associates LLC – NVT, before 9.8.2020. ([Click here](#)) You can electronically sign and scan to sdintakecoordinator@sdplus.org, or have your student bring with them their first day of services next week. If you have any questions please email lesha.rasco@sdplus.org. When serving students in the local schools we will follow individual school exposure plans and protocols if at anytime they are in direct opposition of SD plans to keep staff or clients safe we will address it with school teams directly.

If you have a school age child and he or she receives insurance services from us you should have had an update meeting scheduled and will be receiving an email about a follow up to the initial meeting during the week of 9.8.2020. This will outline next steps for treatment. A reminder that this Friday 9.4.2020 is the end of scheduled school-age services in our spaces.

Also, for all clients receiving direct services from Sd Associates we are in the process of building COVID-19 Client specific plans that outline specific accommodations or responses in regards to ability to wear a mask, social distancing, need for physical contact and support with cleaning/disinfecting procedures. We will be reviewing with all families by the end of the month.

If you are interested in having us post PCA positions please let your BA know and they will let you know next steps for that. A reminder that staff who currently or recently have worked on your child's team are ineligible to serve as a PCA. While staff are working as a PCA they are employed by you and you should continue to direct clinical questions or needs to the BA you work with. We hope that this will provide another layer of support to families especially right now.

Thank you all for your continued support and trusting us with your child.

Program Directors,
Lesha Rasco and Jennifer Johnson
