



March 12, 2020

To Our Valued Caregivers –

Because the safety and well-being of our employees and clients is at the very top of our concerns during these challenging times, we are writing to share some important information about the coronavirus and some temporary directives being put in place effective immediately. These directives were developed based on guidance issued by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). We will continue to provide updates as the situation changes.

- **If you are experiencing any of the symptoms of the coronavirus below**, call your office, do not go to your clients, and consult your physician.
 - Fever
 - Cough
 - Shortness of Breath
- **If you know that you have been exposed to someone with the coronavirus**, call the office and do not go to your clients.
- **If you were out of the country in an area with a coronavirus outbreak during the last two weeks**, call the office and do not go to your clients.
- **If your client lives in a facility or multi-unit housing** and you are told you cannot enter to service your client, please notify your office immediately.
- **If your client chooses not to accompany you to get groceries** and you don't have a way to pay for them without your client being present, please call your office for direction.
- **Protect yourself and others by washing your hands frequently and avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth.** Washing your hands for at least 20 seconds is more effective than hand sanitizer.
- **Wipe down counters and other surfaces with disinfectant.**
- **If you cough or sneeze**, cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or use the inside of your elbow. Throw used tissues in the trash. Immediately wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
- **Regarding wearing facemasks.** Facemasks are in short supply, and are only recommended for people who actually have the virus. Masks are worn by the sick person to prevent transmission of the virus to others.
- **Call 211 if you have questions.** The 211 Connecticut line is available 24/7, 365 days per year.

These directives may change as the situation changes. We will keep you informed, and urge you to visit our website for the latest information and updates.

We all have to think of our elderly clients during these challenging times because they are the most susceptible to the virus. For many of our clients, the services you provide are essential. We all have to work together and do our very best to provide care to those who need us most. As always, we are grateful for your dedication to your clients. If you have any questions or concerns, please call your office for guidance.

Companions & Homemakers