



2920 Tenth Street • P.O. Box 1023 • Columbus, Indiana 47202-1023 • Phone: 812-376-9404

To: DSI Consumers, Families, Guardians, and other partners

From: Shane Burton, CEO

Date: May 4, 2020

Dear DSI Friends:

I hope this letter finds everyone safe, and I'm also hopeful that everyone will read this letter through its entirety. As I'm sure everyone knows, Governor Holcomb has announced Indiana's "Back on Track" plan to safely reopen Indiana. DSI is continuing to assess the COVID-19 situation by staying up to date on the Governor's orders, the Indiana State Department of Health requirements and the CDC guidelines. With all of that in mind, I would like to provide everyone with some steps DSI will be taking to begin safely implementing and reopening certain services.

During this time of reopening, it is imperative that everyone understand that COVID-19 is not just a thing of the past, but it continues to be very much a part of our daily lives. Everyone should continue to follow all safety guidelines outlined by Governor Holcomb and the CDC. We cannot relax our thoughts around the health and safety of those whom we serve in this organization. I ask that all staff, families, and DSI partners do their part to ensure we are minimizing "risk" to those we serve. Consumers, families, and guardians who do not wish to participate in DSI programs at this time due to safety concerns will be given the option of not participating in services as they open and can choose a future date that works better for them. While DSI has worked hard to control exposure and risk during this pandemic, it is impossible for DSI to control staff's choices during their personal/private time. This should be considered by everyone when considering returning to a service or work.

Beginning May 6th face-to-face services will resume for individuals participating in Children's Services (therapies), REACH Services, Individual Habilitation Services, Behavior Management Services, and Nursing Services. Consideration for location and ability to social distance should be given to any service provided outside of a location where services are currently being provided. Preschool Services will not be opening at this time, but a later date will be determined.

Beginning May 18th Community Employment Services will begin face-to-face meetings. Also on this date our facility based services will begin a controlled and slow process of reopening. We will reopen facility-based services for only those individuals who have been in DSI care throughout this pandemic. There are several reasons for this decision. One is that Governor Holcomb's reopening plan only allows for 25 individuals in a group setting initially. Another reason is that DSI has not had control of the environment for individuals living in the community who also participate in facility-based services.

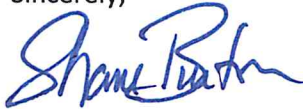
Beginning June 1st DSI plans to reopen the remainder of our workshop services to all participants. While this is our plan as of today's date, we will need to monitor this situation as we get more information on COVID-19 cases in Indiana during the coming weeks as well as assuring we set up our spaces to allow for the appropriate social distancing guidelines. Transportation routes ran by DSI will also resume on this date.

As we move forward with these dates, we ask that everyone involved understand that none of these decisions are taken lightly and are not made for any one individual or specific situation. These decisions are made for the health and safety of everyone involved to the very best of our ability. We understand that some of these decisions impact individuals and families, and we ask that you work with us as we maneuver through these next several weeks of reopening.

Again, as I stated earlier it is imperative that we not relax our focus on health and safety at this time. Those individuals over the age of 65 and our most vulnerable need to continue to follow the stay at home rules outlined by Governor Holcomb. Thank you for your continued cooperation and patience as we work through the necessary responses to this pandemic situation. Everyone has truly done remarkably well when considering the serious circumstances we have been in. While I understand we still have some uncertainty ahead, I'm extremely confident we will come out positive on the other side of this if everyone will continue to focus on safety in the coming days.

In closing I want to say "thank you" again to everyone for their ongoing support and hard work during this unprecedented time. I ask everyone to understand that the above-stated dates for reopening services are our intentions as of this writing, but these could change based on any new information.

Sincerely,



Shane Burton
CEO