

May 15, 2020

Dear Families and Guardians,

We are so thankful to all of you for your support through this difficult time. It warms our hearts that you have remained in close contact with your family member throughout these past few months through technology, window visits and mail. Thank you so much for all you are doing.

As you know there are new changes in Federal and State policy regarding COVID-19; the Governor lifted the travel ban and there are businesses reopening. Other data that we have been watching are our own statistics.

Total staff tested: 72; (25 were tested due to symptoms or possible exposure)

Total positive staff: 1 (at the end of March)

Total people supported tested: 6

Total positive people supported: ZERO!

The weather is warming up and we have well established protocols (thank you families for giving us time to get a rhythm). In taking the above information under advisement, we have decided to allow “**Controlled Family Visits**”.

Family visits may vary from community to community because there are variations in the number of positive cases; i.e. Hettinger and Bowman have fewer cases and thus has different opening protocols. Dickinson has more cases.

*Overall, we believe that outdoor visits are the safest start*. The advantage is sunshine which we all need and good air flow. However, we still want to be very cautious. I have attached a protocol that we will be using for family visits. Again, in Dickinson, we will be starting with outdoor visits. We know the critical importance of families reuniting. This is very exciting.

You will see our stores opening in phases. In Dickinson we are doing outdoor sales. Our goal to open the Thrift Center, Decades and Repeat Outlet will be June 1st with people we support starting back the following week.

Once again, thank you for all your support and patience. Feel free to give us a call with questions.

Sincerely,

Mary Anderson

Executive Director