

UCP OF GREATER CLEVELAND STAFF UPDATE – MARCH 18, 2020

Most Recent Updates/Reminders

- Keep in mind that you will receive your full pay on March 27th even though most UCP staff did not work this week (we are paid one week in arrears.)
- Bob Taylor is in communication with our health/benefits administrator to learn how UCP's annual open enrollment will be executed. If the COVID-19 closure had not occurred, we would be enrolling in April with a new effective date of May 1. Just before closure, we had negotiated new health coverage rates and tiers that will result in a decrease in premiums for most of you. We will confirm that these rates will be honored when we learn of the timing of open enrollment.
- We learned today of some financial relief being offered by the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities and should know how much to expect and when to expect it sometime next week.
- We are participating in a teleconference tomorrow, (3/19) with Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities (who funds all of our employment related services) with hopes that they will announce some level of financial relief.
- We learned of a small business loan option that is sweeping the country to try to help small businesses, including nonprofits. It is not yet being offered in Ohio, but we should know in the next few days whether our state will offer it.
- Your leadership team is keeping up with all developments that will impact you and the agency, and we continue to develop scenarios that offer the most benefit to you, our clients and our agency.
- We have held teleconferenced meetings with various board committees to gain their perspectives, poke holes in our ideas and add their own and all have been helpful
- Now that we have seen some forward movement on announcements of relief, we have determined that it makes sense to make decisions on staffing and pay once we have more information. We want to make responsible decisions and just cannot do that without having additional information. Please bear with us. We will have some useful updates next week.
- In the meantime, I continue to remind those of you who may be interested that while we figure all of this out, we are offering alternative work opportunities with both UCP's group homes (contact Sam at spuccinelli@ucpcleveland.org or 216-409-0709) as well as other local DD provider agencies in need of direct support staff to meet their clients' residential service needs. If you have not been in touch with Bob Taylor about working in a direct support capacity for another service provider, I encourage you to consider it and reach out to Bob at btaylor@ucpcleveland.org or 216-453-4954 ASAP. There will be many direct support staff in town, such as yourselves, potentially competing for these openings with other providers that will offer a premium rate of pay. Please note that you would maintain your employment with UCP during a temporary placement with another agency.
- Please feel free to call me with questions/concerns at 440-454-1363 and please stay healthy!

Thank you

Trish & UCP Leadership Team