

March 30, 2020

Hi Everyone,

As we start our third week of UCP of Greater Cleveland's partial suspension of services, we are relieved that your employment status and your compensation and benefits continue! Many of you have asked about your work assignments and what you can contribute to the agency during this challenging time. We thank you for all you have done and continue to do. Please expect some information regarding work assignments in the coming days that will benefit the Agency greatly. Your supervisors will be in touch with you to discuss priorities, ask for your feedback and to provide some direction. This is a time for us to continue to serve our individuals and families as best we can, sometimes in creative ways. It will also give us an opportunity to catch up on or complete things that will set us up for a smooth and successful return to business!

The **date on which UCP of Greater Cleveland will return to business as usual** is unknown. Strict social distancing guidelines have been extended through April 30th and unless these are lifted, we can all plan on our current situation to last at least through the end of April and possibly into May. Please know that we will not risk anyone's health, including that of you and your family or of our individuals by returning to full Agency capacity before we are sure we are in the clear. We will remain in touch with updates as we have them.

These unprecedented times are creating many changes and potential stresses to our daily lives and routines. Please remember:

- You all have access to our **Employee Assistance Program**:
 - The basic service is free and is described in the attachment to this message.
 - You can find many helpful tools through the website: [GuidanceResources.com](https://www.guidanceresources.com) (click **Register** and enter the word "Lifekeys") OR speak to a licensed counselor by calling: 855-891-3684 (you may be asked for our employer code which is "Lifekeys").
 - The service is confidential. Some enhanced programs may include a fee, so please be sure to ask if there are charges associated with any particular service.

I am sure many of you have heard of the **\$1200 and \$2400 economic stimulus checks** to be issued by the federal government. I offer the following information that has been provided along with a calculator that you can use to determine what to expect.

"Section 2201: 2020 recovery rebates for individuals. All U.S. residents with adjusted gross income up to \$75,000 (\$150,000 married), who are not a dependent of another taxpayer and have a work-eligible social security number, are eligible for the full \$1,200 (\$2,400 married) rebate. In addition, they are eligible for an additional \$500 per child. This is true even for those who have no income, as well as those whose income comes entirely from non-taxable means-tested benefit programs, such as SSI benefits.

For the vast majority of Americans, no action on their part will be required in order to receive a rebate check as IRS will use a taxpayer's 2019 tax return if filed, or in the alternative their 2018 return. This includes many low-income individuals who file a tax return in order to take advantage of the refundable Earned Income Tax Credit and Child Tax Credit. There are additional specifications, regulations and amounts that surround those who may make a higher wage or have varying situations."

Stimulus Check Calculator:

https://www.washingtonpost.com/graphics/business/coronavirus-stimulus-check-calculator/?fbclid=IwAR2iET9fFbPhwcx7sk74t1_02J0WVKD9fQzFPPob0eRI8rnA6fU9spVknVVM&utm_campaign=wp_main&utm_medium=social&utm_source=facebook

As you continue to do everything possible to maintain your health and that of your families and co-workers, I am sorry to let you know that we have received some notifications from fellow employees who have either received a positive diagnosis of the coronavirus or who have been advised to self-quarantine. Please note that we have contacted all employees and clients who may have recently come in contact with these individuals. We are also aware that many of you have friends and family members who are directly affected. I ask that you keep in mind that, as the pandemic goes on, some of our employees are impacted by symptoms and diagnoses and others may be in the future. Please keep these individuals, all of your co-workers and our friends at UCP in your thoughts. We wish everyone impacted a speedy recovery.

Please be in touch with Beth at (216) 534-9960 or Trish at (440) 454-1363 with any questions.

Take care of yourselves. Your health and well-being are of the greatest importance to us.