

## Update from Arc SF Executive Director Matt Tarver-Wahlquist, Thursday, 3/26/2020

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Matt Tarver-Wahlquist

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Hello Participants and Families of The Arc San Francisco,

I hope you are holding up well during these challenging times! Although our offices are closed and everyone is encouraged to stay at home, we at The Arc are doing our utmost to make sure services get to people.

To this point, we have one individual served by The Arc who tested positive for COVID-19. We have informed everyone who has potentially been exposed and are following recommendations from the health department.

Our dedicated staff are providing **in-person residential services** to the people that need them. The rest of our team is checking in with everyone regularly and is busy **designing remote services** so that everyone stays as connected as possible.

- This week, we rolled out "The Arc SF Edu" on our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/TheArcSFedu/>, and for those of you on Facebook, we invite you to visit and "like" it to receive notifications about activities.
- Early next week, we will debut our new remote learning site, [www.thearcsfhub.org](http://www.thearcsfhub.org), which will carry that Facebook feed for those who are not on Facebook, as well as be a portal to a variety of services and virtual social gatherings. We will let you know when we are ready to begin with remote classes there.
- I am having a **weekly call with a group of service providers and GGRC** to exchange ideas, ask questions, and try to ascertain what the short and medium term future will bring. Our primary funder, the California Department of Developmental Services, is keeping some funding streams intact and we are continuing to pay all of our staff. We are incurring some additional costs to address this unique situation and we are working on raising funds from our community to help cover those costs.
- **Next week we will assess whether we will proceed with our initial reopening date** of the week of April 6th or if we will be extending the temporary closure of our sites.

Given all of the challenges we are all facing, I want to express to you how inspired I am by the commitment and thoughtfulness our staff has shown in every corner of the organization, from the people processing our payroll, to the managers facilitating services, to the incredible staff who are stepping in to support the most vulnerable in our society. I am extremely proud to be part of this organization.

You will be receiving an update from me at least once a week. Please know that we are thinking of you, your health and well-being during this time. Thank you for being part of the Arc San Francisco and as always let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Best,