

October 9, 2020

Dear AABR Families:

As you have no doubt heard, COVID-19 hotspots are popping up all around New York City. We assure you that we have not had a new COVID-19 case at AABR since April, and we will do everything in our power to keep it that way.

The staff in our facilities remains vigilant. They came face to face with this deadly virus before, so they know precisely how bad it can get, and none of us want to experience that ever again. We refuse to. We are carefully monitoring and adhering to all guidelines from NYS DOH, NYC DOHMH, OPWDD, and CDC. AABR has had two sites recently inspected by OPWDD for adherence to COVID protocols and have passed with flying colors. In fact, the auditors commended staff for their knowledge and practices around infection control.

We continue to practice all that we have done to keep ourselves virus-free these past seven months, which includes:

- Daily temperature and symptom checks for all staff and individuals at all locations.
- Frequent changing and washing of clothes.
- Wearing masks with regular replacement of single-use masks and washing of reusable face covers.
- Handwashing and hand hygiene.
- Wearing coveralls.
- Disinfecting of common areas and high touch objects.
- Social Distancing.

This list doesn't include one of the most important reasons for our success, AABR's family nature. It's important, on a personal level, to every member of our staff that they keep each other safe and that they keep the individuals healthy. They spend so much time with your loved ones that they care for them like their own families.

It's been a long and challenging journey. We know that these restrictions can be burdensome and that we dream of the day when things can return to normal. But we can and must all stay focused and work together towards our shared goal of keeping each other virus-free. **I know we can do this because we are NY Tough, and we are AABR Strong!**

Sincerely,



Libby Traynor, LCSW  
Executive Director