



Dear Damar Families,

As we head into the holiday season, I wanted to take a moment to thank you for your patience and understanding as we have traversed this challenging year together. While the decisions we have made (especially around family time and closing the campus to extended visitors and trips off campus) have been difficult, they have resulted in keeping our clients safe. You may be aware that today Governor Holcomb reported that our 7-day positivity rate has exceeded 10% - the highest so far. On November 15th, the Governor is stepping back from Stage 5 and implementing greater restrictions and he is asking people to limit or stop visiting family at long-term facilities. Updated restrictions will be in place in the State at least through December 15th.

As you make plans for the upcoming Thanksgiving holiday, please note Damar's plan for clients in our 24-hour settings for children (campus and group homes).

- With the COVID-19 positivity rating as high as it currently is, we will not be deviating from our current protocols regarding clients leaving their current living settings. Sadly, there can be no trips off campus for the Thanksgiving holiday. We are working behind the scenes to create some fun experiences for the clients on Thanksgiving to help them navigate the day.
- For families who wish to schedule time with a loved one on the week of Thanksgiving, our protocols for limiting visitors will remain in place. Even on Thanksgiving Day, Damar will be restricting the number of approved adult visitors to 2. As a reminder, all visitors must be on the approved visitation list for the child and no visitors under the age of 18 will be permitted. As per usual protocol, families must schedule these times in advance and be screened before entering. Family time will still be limited in duration to allow as many families as possible to spend time with loved ones. A Thanksgiving lunch and dinner will be provided to all children who reside on Damar's campus and Group Homes on Thanksgiving Day. However, these meals cannot be provided to visiting family members. But Damar is allowing families, if they choose, to bring in purchased carry out food items to have during family time on campus with their children. Only purchased carry out food will be allowed and this can occur only on the Wednesday before Thanksgiving, Thanksgiving Day, and the day after Thanksgiving. No food prepared and brought from home will be permitted. For families who visit with their children at times other than lunch or dinner or who choose not to bring in carry out items, Damar will be providing cookies and other snacks during all family time visits.

We are watching closely what is occurring across the state and in the Marion county area as we look towards the Christmas holiday. We will provide information to families regarding Christmas as soon as possible.

Please know that we are taking every precaution to keep your loved one safe. We appreciate the trust you have continued to place in us. It is a privilege to serve your family.

If you have any questions about Thanksgiving, please direct them to your care team. I'm also always happy to answer any questions directly.

Very gratefully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jim Dalton", written in a cursive style.

Dr. Jim L. Dalton, Psy.D., HSPP, CSAYC
President and CEO