

February 8, 2020

Dear Damar Family,

Every time I have written to you over the past year, I have felt the weight of the decisions our team has made in order to keep your loved ones safe. I know the hardship many have faced with having restrictions put on their family time. And I can't stress enough how appreciative I am of your understanding. We are proud that no clients in our 24-hour care settings have tested positive, and our staff positivity rate has remained under 5%. We know that amongst other providers we are in rare company.

With that, I want to share with you some good news and an update on what Damar's plans are as we head into the spring. First, I'm very pleased to report that Damar staff and adult clients are able to get the COVID-19 vaccine now. In fact, our first on-campus Vaccine Clinic will be held this week. These clinics will be held monthly through April to vaccinate those who choose. Next, we are focusing our attention on how we can begin to open back up and provide some of the experiences that are hallmarks of our care. While we are paying close attention to state and local guidance and are not ready to resume business-as-usual with increased visitors, we know this is coming soon. So, at least until we get through our vaccine clinics, we anticipate keeping the current family time scheduling plan for our 24-hour residential care programs. I hope to have great news for you (the date we anticipate lifting of some safety restrictions) by mid-March.

We are excited to tell you that we are making plans for activities in May that will be enriching for the youth in our care. Namely, we are planning to hold Prom, Graduation, and Damar Games. While we're not sure what those client events will look like right now, we are committed to finding a way to celebrate these important milestones. While we cannot say for sure, we certainly hope these important and fun activities will be "in-person" events.

I'm very pleased with the protocols we put in place nearly a year ago – and the protection they have afforded. And I am so proud of the way our children, families, and staff have responded to this critical time in our nation. Please continue to be patient as we ride this out together and know that we cannot wait to throw our doors open and welcome everyone back as soon as it is safe to do so.

If you have any questions or concerns, please reach out to your care team.

Sincerely,

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