



## Stark County Board of Developmental Disabilities

March 17, 2020

To Our Stakeholders:

Well a lot has happened since last week. It is important to know that we continue to work closely with people served, families, and our provider community. We have reached out to every family who has a student that attends our preschool and school age programs and provided food for these students over the next three weeks. In addition, we are reaching out to all people served and their families in the days ahead. We will continue our outreach until we have contacted everyone we serve.

As we know, things are consistently evolving and we anticipate the announcement of the closure of adult day sites and child care centers in the days ahead. The closure of child care centers could further affect the workforce shortage we already have.

We were able to hold a teleconference with over 50 providers on Monday, March 16<sup>th</sup>, and share information, review guidance we collectively have received from the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities, and answer several questions. Our providers are already working together. To assist with support needs of the people we serve, we are reaching out to our employees and labor unions to request their assistance in addressing likely staffing needs. So far, we have been overwhelmed by our employees who have been willing to help.

This COVID-19 health crisis poses an opportunity for us to collaborate and partner more than ever before. We are making sure that you know the Board of Developmental Disabilities is available 24 hours a day/7 days a week. I can be contacted by cell phone at 330-413-0412 to make sure you get the assistance you need and as quickly as possible. We are offering two emails to assist you:

**Providers** – for staffing needs, please email [providersupport@starkdd.org](mailto:providersupport@starkdd.org)

**People Served and Families** – for questions and concerns, please email [supportneeded@starkdd.org](mailto:supportneeded@starkdd.org).

Please go to our website at [www.starkdd.org](http://www.starkdd.org) for the most updated information on COVID-19 and the actions we are taking.

Let us each wash our hands, don't touch our face, and only go out when absolutely necessary.

To your health and wellness,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Bill Green".

Bill Green

2950 Whipple Avenue NW Canton, Ohio 44708 330.477.5200

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Investigative Services & Incident Reporting 330.477.4477 • Service Support Administration 330.479.3570  
Rebecca Stallman Southgate School 330.484.2547 • Eastgate Early Childhood / Family Center 330.479.3440  
Family Support Services 330.479.7759 • Transportation 330.484.6451

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