

Dear Families,

As we “shelter in place” in response to the COVID-19 government mandate ([Alameda County Health Order](#)), we want you to know that you are all in our thoughts. Reluctantly, George Mark Children’s House will be suspending our Respite program through April 7, and rescheduling any patients for Respite care who had planned a visit during this time. **We are open and accepting patients referred to George Mark for End of Life. Our nursing and psychosocial staff are remaining on call should the need arise for this essential service.**

I recognize that suspending our Respite Program, in particular, may have a significant impact on your life and that of your family. We are committed to responding and resuming the Respite program at George Mark as soon as possible. If you would like to schedule future respite stays after April 7, please contact Kathy Lee, Case Manager, at 510-346-1285 or email her at klee@georgemark.org.

We remain focused on the health and well-being of your child. Please let us know how we can serve and support you and your family during this period of time by contacting our Social Worker, Amanda Hedrick, at ahedrick@georgemark.org.

For additional information on Covid-19 contact the [Center of Disease Control](#).

The [California Department of Health Care Services](#) has put out the following information:

The Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) is closely monitoring the COVID-19 situation, coordinating with the state and federal government, and working with our partners to protect the health of Californians.

The [DHCS homepage](#) includes information and links to the Department’s response to COVID-19, and to the state’s response as outlined on the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) website. DHCS links provide information about medically necessary [COVID-19 testing and care](#), [guidance to Medi-Cal managed care plans](#), consumer health care coverage [options](#), [guidance for the fee-for-service pharmacy benefit](#), and Medi-Cal Eligibility Division Information Letter [20-06](#) (Public Health Crisis or Disaster Reminders for Medi-Cal). The webpage will be updated as DHCS’ COVID-19 response continues.

Also, please visit the CDPH website for [COVID-19 updates](#) and a list of various guidance [various guidance documents](#).

Regional Centers also have [information on their services](#). For County Departments of Public Health, here are links, depending on your place of residence:

- [Alameda County Public Health](#)
- [Contra Costa County Public Health](#)
- [Marin County Public Health](#)
- [San Mateo County Public Health](#)
- [San Francisco County Public Health](#)
- [Santa Clara County Public Health](#)

And finally, for personal health concerns, please contact your primary health care physician.

Thank you, as always, for the trust you place in George Mark.

Warm regards,

Linda Ashcraft Hudak
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