



LETTER TO OUR COMMUNITY  
COVID-19 UPDATE  
March 30, 2020

In light of the COVID-19 crisis, we want to assure you that our main concern is the health, safety, and welfare of the people we serve, employees, and the community. We understand that the COVID-19 pandemic has been very disruptive to your daily routines, and the stress can be challenging to manage. Although we know this disruption is temporary, we want you to know that we will do everything within our power to provide you support during these unusual times. The GCESC Mental Health Services will continue to provide therapy services throughout this ordeal, however our method of providing services will be via the phone rather than face-to-face in the office. We strive to provide the services at the same frequency as are currently provided.

The GCESC Mental Health Services Therapists are working daily to connect with parents and students, as well as keeping in close contact with School Counselors and Principals. In this unusual time, therapists are sharing creative ways to help families connect with and support one another. Parents are faced with unique challenges around maintaining a schedule, engaging their children in learning, and balancing learning with frequent breaks for exercise and laughter. Establishing and keeping a routine is a helpful way to manage anxiety and establish a “new normal” in this unprecedented time. Please do not hesitate to call them as concerns arise.

Our mental health program staff are working hard to stay connected to multiple community support agencies and services for families. Maintaining regular contact with our community partners – School Districts, Public Health, Dayton Childrens Hospital, TCN, PATH, Family & Children First, Juvenile Court and Children’s Services and many others – allows us to quickly link families to services, and keep other agencies aware of growing needs that may be going unmet. We may not have the immediate answer to all of your questions, but we are closely linked with other who help.

Things are changing minute by minute, so we will keep you updated. We are excited about the opportunity to develop Telemental Health technologies, which we expect to be able to offer as an option in the very near future. Your Greene ESC Mental Health Services therapist will talk with you about this option.

Thank you for all you are doing to cope with the COVID-19 crisis. We are impressed with your patience, strength, flexibility and resilience. The sacrifices you are making to keep your family safe and healthy remind us that we will assuredly get through this together. Thank you.

Please take a look at resources provided in page titled **Helpful Information and Tips for Coping with the COVID-19 Crisis**.