



Maryhaven Center of Hope
Catholic Health Services
At the heart of health

April 30, 2020

This marks our 7th week managing the COVID-19 pandemic. What was only recently considered out of the ordinary' has become quite ordinary as we've all adapted to quarantining at home, socially distancing ourselves from friends and loved ones, shopping stores with empty shelves, and wearing masks while at work and in public.

This extraordinary set of circumstances has led to extraordinary acts of kindness. The Maryhaven families and the Long Island community have risen to the occasion by offering food and supplies to our programs. Employees are baking and preparing meals for frontline staff to express appreciation and gratitude. Agency leaders are working hard to ensure staff are provided the resources to meet the needs of the job at hand, and the direct support staff continue to provide wonderful care to our individuals while enduring the threat of COVID-19 every day. This has truly been a team effort, and I could not be more proud of how well the agency has banded together in responding to this crisis.

Sadly, we've lost beloved individuals and staff to this dreadful virus. I offer those affected my deepest condolences. In typical Maryhaven fashion, I assure you that, collectively, we will honor the life and memory of each of these special people in the months to come.

As we begin to consider a plan to return to normalcy in upcoming weeks, Maryhaven will continue to be diligent in following Department of Health guidelines and maintaining our supply of Personal Protective Equipment. At its peak, COVID-19 impacted 44 staff and individuals at Maryhaven. Today, we have as few as 14 active cases. I attribute this to effective communication among our workforce and, of course, strict adherence to the guidelines proposed throughout this health crisis.

I ask that you remain patient and stay the course until further direction is provided on the state and federal level. It is anticipated that decisions will be made in the next few weeks regarding the status of agency day programs. Our goal remains to our individuals and staff safe while returning to some semblance of normalcy.

Thank you all of your support during this time. It has made all the difference!

Sincerely,

Charles Vanek
Chief Administrative Officer

