



March 15, 2020

Dear Friends,

I want to provide you with an update regarding SCS' Infectious Disease Response Plan. Given the gravity of the public health emergency posed by COVID-19 and the need for social distancing and other actions to slow the spread of the disease throughout our community, SCS is taking the following additional actions:

1. Senior Centers/Center Without Walls - **Activities at all four of SCS' senior centers - Chester Senior Center, Friendship Circle Senior Center, Good Neighbor Senior Center and Schoolhouse Center - and the Center Without Walls are suspended during this public health emergency.** Classes, programs and gatherings are postponed during this time period. Senior centers will be staffed for essential services only: to provide take-out meals for congregate meal participants and homebound meals for frail elderly. Volunteers who are essential to those activities will be contacted by center staff.

Senior center staff will be on hand at centers to remain a resource for those in need. Feel free to call in for information or assistance, including if you need a meal.

Chester Senior Center - [610-497-3550](tel:610-497-3550)
Friendship Circle Senior Center - [610-237-6222](tel:610-237-6222)
Good Neighbor Senior Center - [610-586-8170](tel:610-586-8170)
Schoolhouse Center - [610-237-8100](tel:610-237-8100) ext. 30
COSA - [610-490-1300](tel:610-490-1300)

This interruption in services is unprecedented, but necessary, and we look forward to welcoming our center participants back to SCS as soon as possible.

2. Long-Term Care - SCS care managers and supervisors will begin working remotely at noon on Monday, March 16th. Care managers will be in touch with their consumers by telephone throughout this time period to monitor care plans, assess new cases, and respond to emergencies.
3. APPRISE Health Insurance Counseling - APPRISE counseling sessions will be available by phone while senior centers, libraries and other locations are closed. If you need Medicare counseling, call the APPRISE office at 484-494-3769 for more information.

4. Volunteerism - During this public health emergency, we expect that some members of our volunteer corps will not be able to provide service. If you are able to deliver meals to frail elderly during this time period, please contact our Volunteer Director, Michele O'Brien, at mobrien@scs-delco.org or 484-496-2149.

The need for social distancing will increase loneliness, isolation and depression among the older adults SCS serves. If you are interested in keeping in touch with an older adult by telephone while our centers are closed, please contact Michele O'Brien about that, as well.

SCS provides vital services to thousands of Delaware County seniors every day through senior centers, home-delivered meals, long-term care and other activities. The agency's board of directors and staff look forward to resuming our full portfolio of programs and services as soon as possible; we will be taking guidance from state and local public health authorities. In the meantime, we encourage you to keep in touch with one another by phone and social media, and to reach out to us by phone or email if you need assistance.

Stay healthy!
Arthur Weisfeld

P.S. For up-to-the-minute information about services for the aging in Delaware County, please visit the [website](#) of Delaware County Office of Services for the Aging (COSA). For the latest news about the Delaware County response to COVID-19, please visit the Delaware County [website](#).