



SUBJECT: DSG's Response to Coronavirus: Latest Updates

DATE: April 14, 2020

Dear Friends of DSG,

DSG's number one priority is the safety of the people we serve, our staff and volunteers. We have been closely monitoring the COVID-19/Coronavirus situation, while developing and deploying numerous methods of "virtually" serving our population during this uncertain time. With both Kansas and Missouri officially closing schools through the end of 2019-2020 academic year, **we have decided to extend the cancellation of our "in-person" services through Friday, June 5th.** We will continue to closely monitor the situation and should the opportunity arise to provide in-person services prior to June, we will re-evaluate our plans and keep you informed.

I understand all of these rapidly changing circumstances create anxiety and uncertainty. This is especially true when it means changing the realities of how we live day-to-day. That's why today, I am going to set out for you as clearly as possible, what you can expect from your DSG team as we continue through this time together.

DSG Services Available:

- **Virtual Support** at mykcdsg.org through our new chat line that offers real-time support from our specialized staff
- **Virtual therapeutic coaching** sessions for [Pathways](#) families
- **Provision of video-modeling** to improve skills at home, including "[Let's Move Our Bodies](#)"
- **Social connection** for teens on [Zoom](#)
- **IEP assistance** with document review and pre-meeting consultation by emailing amy@kcdsg.org
- **Legislative advocacy** as we monitor pandemic related and other bills being introduced. Email amy@kcdsg.org for more information.
- **Social Media:** helpful tips and videos from our specialized service team that families may incorporate into life in this "new normal"
- **Coming Soon:** teletherapy for speech and language (pre-K and elementary)

We encourage you to reach out to us for any support you need for your loved one with Down syndrome by calling us at 913-384-4848 or emailing us at info@kcdsg.org.

I want you to know that we are remaining focused on expanding our offerings to serve your loved one throughout the lifespan, from birth through late adulthood. Plans are still under way for the opening of our new [Lifelong Learning Campus](#), with expanded space to launch new services including our Adult Continuing Education ([ACE](#)) [program](#), Therapeutic Play Groups, and social enterprise opportunities, which will employ people with Down syndrome. We will provide updates on our progress as we build for the future.

We are thinking about you and your families during this challenging time—and look forward to the time we can come together again. In the meantime, I want you to know our team is here to serve you.

Be well,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jason", written in a cursive style.

Jason Drummond, Ed.D.
Chief Executive Officer