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May 13, 2020

Dear Parents,

As our state moves to Phase I of reopening, we too are preparing to open based on the CDC guidelines and state regulations. As staff return to the clinic, we will continue to provide telehealth at least through the month of May and reassess for June. However, we will begin seeing a limited number of children in the clinic beginning May 18th based on extreme medical necessity. Each of your child's therapists will contact you by text, email or phone to talk about a plan for your child. If you have any questions or need to reach us, you may call the center at 225-923-3420 or email us info@mcmainscdc.org or your child's therapist.

What to expect when you return to the clinic:

- Parents/caregivers will not be allowed to wait in the waiting room unless they have been dropped off by transportation. If dropped off by transportation, he/she must wear a mask and sit at least 6 feet apart from others while in the lobby. There will be a limited number of chairs in the lobby.
- The child and parent/caregiver will have their temperature taken by a staff member and be asked a series of questions pertaining to exposure. If either the parent/caregiver or child's temperature is higher than 99.9° (current CDC guidelines) therapy will be cancelled for that day and he/she will be required to be fever free for 72 hours without the use of medication. However, if the temperature does not meet the criteria and the child is experiencing other symptoms, they may be sent home. A physician's excuse/clearance may be required to return to therapy. In addition, a series of questions will be asked in regard to exposure.
- Every staff member will also have his/her temperature taken every morning upon arrival.
- Upon entry, each patient will be asked to wear a mask while at the Center. Some patients may come with their own masks; however, those who don't will have a cloth mask given to them. These masks will have the patient's name written on them. They will be collected as the patient exits the Center and washed that day. They will then be stored individually, in a bag with that patient's name until the next therapy session. *Mask exceptions include: children under the age of 2, patients with a tracheostomy, patients on ventilators, patients that have breathing difficulties, and patients who due to their diagnosis cannot tolerate a mask.*
- Therapists will wear a mask and/or face shield when working directly with patients. All other employees will also wear a mask.
- All employees will wash his/her hands or use hand sanitizer frequently throughout the day. In addition, therapists will wash their hands or use hand sanitizer before and after treating each patient. Therapist will also sanitize his/her therapy space before and after each patient.
- All common areas such as the lobby and main office will be sanitized frequently.
- Hand sanitizer will be available for all to use. Even though a mask is worn, people should avoid touching his/her face.

If you, your child, and/or a member of your household are sick or have been exposed to COVID-19, please contact your physician first and then the Center. CDC guidelines will be followed as to when your child can return to therapy. Let us continue to work together through these ever-changing times so that we can all stay safe and healthy.

Kindest regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Anne".

Anne Hindrichs, LCSW
Executive Director