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*Serving Children and Adults with Intellectual and Other Developmental Disabilities for over 70 Years*

October 30, 2020

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Executive Director

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Director of Finance

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Deborah Pflieger

Dear Individuals, Families, and AHRC Suffolk Team Members:

Surely there are times that many of us have been frustrated and inconvenienced due to the restrictions and regulations that have been in place the last 7.5 months. Limitations on gatherings, restrictions on how frequently people can attend school/program, where people can travel without repercussions, these are all things that prior to March, we could have never imagined could be limited. However, this continues to be our reality and, as we fight to keep ourselves and those we love and support safe and healthy, adhering to this guidance must remain of utmost importance.

Recently it was announced that Connecticut, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Massachusetts all meet the criteria to qualify for New York State's COVID-19 Travel Advisory, due to their significant degree of community-wide spread of COVID-19. Due to their close proximity to NY and the impracticality of these neighboring states being added to the travel advisory, residents are therefore strongly encouraged to consider avoiding non-essential travel to those states. Much like the current hotspots in some areas of New York, any travel in these states call for the ultimate discretion in assuring travel is necessary; if travel to CT, NJ, PA & MA, as well as the NY hotspots is essential, please ensure you are hyper-vigilant in following all necessary protocols, including wearing a mask, avoiding large crowds and proper hygiene practices. We cannot take unnecessary risks and bring this virus back to our communities. Click [HERE](#) for recent travel update information.

With Halloween tomorrow, I implore you to remember and respect the reason these vital safety measures are in place. There is the potential that your child or loved one may attend a gathering or party this weekend, and attendees may not be wearing masks to limit the transmission of COVID-19 and social distancing may not be possible. We implore you to respect these safety measures! By hosting or attending such an event, you may be putting not only your own health at risk, but the health of our AHRC Suffolk community. We must all serve as role models by making choices that reflect our understanding that we are responsible for the well-being of one another, now more than ever.

We thank you in advance for your continued support of our concern for the safety and well-being of the AHRC Suffolk community. Please have a nice and safe weekend.

*Today you could be standing next to someone who is trying their best not to fall apart.  
So whatever you do today, do it with kindness in your heart.*

Stay well, stay safe and thank you for all you do,

Paul H. Torres  
Executive Director



Please help us celebrate our essential staff on December 9th at our virtual Candlelight Ball: Highlight Our Heroes. Visit our website, [www.ahrcsuffolk.org/60th-annual-candlelight-ball](http://www.ahrcsuffolk.org/60th-annual-candlelight-ball), for more information.

Join the AHRC Suffolk Team! Visit [www.ahrcsuffolk.org/careers](http://www.ahrcsuffolk.org/careers) to see our current openings at various locations. Apply today!