

# THE DIMOCK CENTER

Healing and caring for the community for over 150 years.

Dear Dimock Family,

Since I wrote to you just last week, so much has changed in our community, and continues to evolve every minute. I hope you are healthy, safe and finding ways to stay connected with friends, family and colleagues. We have all come to appreciate the importance of continuing to talk with others and “visit” virtually. In turn, I want to be sure to keep you all updated about The Dimock Center’s progress and efforts to support our patients, staff and community during the COVID-19 crisis.

Today as I look out my window, I see our dedicated Facilities staff constructing a wooden structure outside our health center building that we will use to test patients for COVID-19 as soon as they arrive on campus. With the incredible demand for tents to screen and test patients, we were unable to purchase one so we came up with our own innovative solution to this supply problem!



Additionally, to treat all of our patients and others from our community in this time of social distancing and “stay at home advisories” we quickly **shifted our primary care, outpatient behavioral health treatment and additional resource support to phone and video chat**. This has been well received by our patients and they have frequently commented to staff on how our rapid response made them feel more secure and helped reduce their feelings of social and medical isolation.

Our inpatient detox, recovery homes, family shelter and houses for adults with developmental disabilities have remained open and staffed around the clock throughout this crisis. To maintain the highest standards of cleanliness and avoid the spread of COVID-19, we **expanded our cleaning services and protocols in the health center and our residential treatment programs.** We also **aggressively sought to hire and train displaced staff in other industries to provide back-up support if any of our staff were to contract COVID-19.** Hopefully these new temporary employees will someday become a permanent part of our Dimock family.

Although we have temporarily closed our Head Start, Early Head Start and Foundations for Learning per Federal and State mandates, we are **staying in touch with our families and connecting them to resources** for healthy foods and other support in our community. Our Early Intervention Specialists continue to “visit” with young children and parents via phone and video chat and once again are keeping them connected to Dimock throughout the duration of the pandemic.

Our Annual Meeting was originally scheduled for today. As many of you know, it is a special morning where we share wonderful stories about Dimock’s work and your impact as a supporter of what we do. Even though we cannot be together in person, I am thrilled to share a [video about Mandy, a current Dimock patient](#), who planned to tell her story in person. Her words will inspire you and remind you of Dimock’s vital role in our community.

Stay well and care and enjoy those you love. Please check out our COVID-19 section of our website for up-to-date health information and resources for you and your family as this pandemic continues and changes; we add content daily. **And finally, thank you for making our work possible; now more than ever, we need [your support](#) to continue to be a community health and human service leader for the underserved populations we serve!**

Sincerely,



Peter Gerondeau  
Interim President and Chief Executive Officer