

March 27, 2020

Dear Behavior and Therapy Network Providers,

These last couple of weeks have not been easy and I hope that this email finds you, your staff, and families well. As information surrounding the coronavirus (COVID-19) has evolved, and new State and Federal mandates have been put into effect, Easterseals Southern California will continue to suspend its face-to-face Autism Speech, Occupational, and Physical Therapies, and our In-Home ABA and Social Skills Services. We have launched telehealth or video conferencing for most of these service areas and will launch it for social skills and 1:1 ABA interventions next week.

Some of our families have taken advantage of these video conferencing services and are reporting positive experiences. Based on information from State and County Authorities, it is possible that these office closures and the practicing of social distancing could remain in effect for several months. Along with discretionary direct service, you have all been given the authorization to practice telehealth services and we hope that you are taking advantage of this opportunity. If you are unable to do so, please contact your Clinical Case Manager or Behavior or Therapy Network Administrator as soon as possible.

We hope to return to business as usual as soon possible but in the meantime, we will all need to adjust to this different way of providing services.

If there are any circumstances that are keeping the families that you support from using a telehealth service, please let us know so we can try to assist.

We also understand that these times are financially challenging for all of us. We are trying to find resources to assist. Attached is a list of resources that we hope you might find useful along with the links below:

http://www.easterseals.com/southerncal/shared-components/document-library/cdcan-newsletter-update.pdf

https://nonprofitquarterly.org/how-nonprofits-can-utilize-the-new-federal-laws-dealing-with-covid-19

Thank you for your understanding and attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,

Paula Pompa-Craven, Psy.D. Chief Clinical Officer Easterseals Autism Services