

March 18, 2020

Dear Lakes Center for Youth and Families' clients and supporters,

Lakes Center for Youth and Families (LC4YF) is committed to you and your well-being, especially as the COVID-19 illness is becoming more prevalent in our community.

As a community based organization that has been serving local youth and families for almost 45 years, our two priorities are providing continued services to our clients and maintaining the safety and well-being of our clients, supporters, and employees. We are following <u>CDC recommendations</u> for cleaning as well as following recommended precautions regarding coming to work.

## Please take a moment to see how we are continuing our services as of March 18, 2020:

**Counseling**: Current clients will be contacted by LC4YF staff to reschedule existing appointments that will now be conducted via telehealth rather than face to face appointments. Telehealth is the distribution of health-related services and information via electronic information and telecommunication technologies. It allows long-distance patient and clinician contact, care, advice, reminders, education, intervention and monitoring.

**Intervention**: Clients will be contacted by LC4YF staff regarding how they will proceed with intakes and follow-ups. This likely will include telehealth delivery of services but will be discussed with each client depending on their required programs.

Tried and True: Our shop will continue with our current schedule.

Youth First: All Youth First programming is suspended while Minnesota schools are not in session.

We understand that this is a challenging time for everyone. As appointment times are available, **we are accepting new counseling clients to utilize telehealth**. If you have questions or are in need to schedule an appointment, please contact us at 651-464-3685 Monday-Thursday between 8:00am to 4:00pm. Our office will be closed to the public through Friday, March 27. We will continue to provide updates regarding our services as we have them. Please visit our website at <u>www.lc4yf.org</u> for the latest news.

Lastly, as a community based nonprofit organization, your continued support allows us to be able to continue to provide our programs for free or at an affordable rate for those in need. If you are able, please considering <u>donating</u> to help us help our community.

We are here for you.

Thank you,

Linda M. Madsen, Ph.D., Executive Director James Schoppenhorst, Board Chair

## Additional Resources:

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline: 1-800-273-8255

Crisis Text Line: Text "HOME" to 741741 for free, confidential help