

Homeward Bound



Homeward Bound Inc.
Board of Directors

March 18, 2020

Patrick Hurley
Board Chair
RGA Reinsurance, Co.

Dear Family Member:

Ryan Sherwood
Board Vice Chair
Principal Financial
Group

In my letter of March 14, I promised to keep all of you updated. Things are changing quickly so I am sending another letter. It is my sad duty to announce the following:

Paul Chermak
Treasurer
Liquid Ray, LLC

The Minnesota Health Department (MDH) has directed Homeward Bound, and all providers of services to those with disabilities, to prohibit visitors to its licensed sites. The ONLY exception to this exclusion is if the individual is in “an end-of-life situation.” In that case, visitors must be screened and allowed to visit only the room where the individual is present. This policy will continue until the MDH has given us direction to stop these limitations.

Kevin Rymanowski
Secretary
Benedictine Health
Systems

MDH has also advised us to stop all internal and external activities. It has also recommended that we limit the interactions and contacts that the individuals we serve have with others. So we are going to enter a modified “quarantine” period for the individuals we serve. In order to protect the individuals we serve, and their staff, we are interpreting the MDH communication as prohibiting home visits or outside activities of any duration conducted by the families. As I mentioned in the first letter, we strongly prefer that you set up video conferencing with your relatives.

David Hofstad
Wells Fargo

Wolfgang Greiner
Greiner Construction
Retired

Jan Moser
Fraser

Andrea Nelson
Spell Capital

Jim Schaefer
Gold Star Mortgage
Financial Group

Most if not all of the Day Programs the individuals attend will be closing this week or next. While this will dramatically limit the contacts the individuals have with the outside world, it will put enormous pressure on our staffing. So, as you might expect, we are busy adjusting schedules and creating incentives for our staff to work many additional hours. We will be making sure that health and safety, and the other basics get done.

Terry Severns-Williams
Samsung Electronics
America

Our trade association, ARRM, is working very forcefully with other disability groups to advocate for public policy solutions that help support individuals with disabilities in their homes during this outbreak. Once DHS has declared a specific policy or the Governor has signed legislation, I will let you know.

Mary Ystesund
AFL-CIO, MRLF
Retired

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Homeward Bound, Inc. is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer

Homeward Bound



To keep up with a rapidly changing environment, we will also be posting information on HBI's website (hbimn.org). We will have a link near the bottom of the front page that will contain all family letters and other important information.

As I implied above, HBI is sorry we have to take these actions. We will lift all of them when the danger goes away and MDH advises us we can. Thank you for your patience and support during this extraordinarily difficult time.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Don Priebe".

Don Priebe
CEO