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Chief Executive Officer
Katy Walter

Pamela Zell

To our valued clients and community,

Before addressing the agency updates, I want to acknowledge how challenging these past few years have been for us all. It has been nothing short of a rollercoaster of ups, downs, twists, and turns. I want you to know that everyone at Kids In The Middle (KITM) has been thinking about you and your family throughout this challenging and trying time. As we continue to navigate this unprecedented time, KITM will not shift from our core values and mission: Kids In The Middle empowers children, parents, and families during and after divorce through counseling, education, and support.

Ensuring the continuity of KITM services is a top priority as we know the ever-present need for mental health services in our community. While none of us can predict exactly what to expect moving forward, the goal always is to take a careful and thoughtful approach to re-introduce employees and clients to the Agency. KITM has put policies and procedures in place to ensure best practices while maintaining the safety of our staff and clients as we all continue to adapt to the changing environment.

As you may already know, on Friday, February 25, 2022, the CDC announced that it is relaxing its mask guidance for the community. Under the new guidance, nearly 70% of the population lives in areas considered low or medium risks, and residents in those areas can go indoors without masks. Due to this new guidance, St. Louis County announced that beginning Monday, February 28, 2022, "St. Louis County is classified as in the 'medium' level of the CDC's new COVID-19 community levels." The order goes on to say, "In acknowledgment of this decrease in risk, a face-covering is no longer in effect as of February 28, 2022."

For two years, Kids In The Middle has followed the guidelines of the CDC and the local health department. KITM will continue to follow those guidelines, and a mask will no longer be mandated indoors. <u>However, masks will be recommended and strongly encouraged for all guests and staff while at the Agency.</u>

We have learned a lot from what we have already experienced, so I am confident we are better prepared to adjust and adapt to the changing environment. KITM will continue with enhanced cleaning protocols, following CDC guidelines, rooms will be disinfected after each client session, and hand sanitizing stations will be located throughout the building for convenience.

Please note that this plan is subject to change based on new and changing recommendations by the CDC and the local health authorities.

Here are some tips to help make sure we all stay healthy:

- If you're feeling even slightly under the weather or you're running a fever, please stay home.
- Wash your hands after using the restroom and before eating -- do so for AT LEAST 20 seconds.
- Use a paper towel to turn off the faucet and open bathroom doors, not your freshly washed hands.
- Avoid touching your face.
- Sneeze or cough into your arm, not your hands.
- Avoid shaking hands and high-fives.
- Avoid drinking from the same cup or bottle as someone else.

As we continue to monitor this situation, these procedures are subject to change with new recommendations, which we will keep you informed as soon as they become available.

Wishing you and your family continued health and wellness,

Sincerely,

Katy Walter

Chief Executive Officer Kids In The Middle

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