

CoronaVirus Update 5/06/2020

Dear GTS Community,

I hope everyone is staying healthy and doing well during this trying time. Our team continues to work hard to adjust to the daily changes and challenges the COVID Virus situation presents. As you know, one of the biggest challenges is how quickly things are changing week to week during this unprecedented time. We assure you our team is working tirelessly to adjust quickly to provide the best and safest services possible.

A few of the upcoming changes:

- **TELEHEALTH ACTIVITIES** - We are excited to be offering a wide range of activities through Telehealth, primarily Google Meet. This extensive list of activities can be found on our Facebook page. Please know that anyone participating in any program through Gallant Therapy Services is welcome to attend, just give us a call at 623-3900 or speak with the program director/therapist.
- **Occupational Therapy** - We will be primarily offering TELETHERAPY as our preferred method of service delivery at this time. We will be offering some limited “Live Sessions” in the clinics when Teletherapy is not an option. Please give us a call if you have any questions.
  - “Live Sessions” - Please note there will be numerous safety precautions in place for anyone participating in “Live Sessions”. These include:
    - If the therapist or child is displaying any symptoms, then the session will be cancelled. If you have questions please contact us prior to the visit.
    - Our waiting rooms will remain closed and the therapist will come out to your vehicle
    - Child and therapist will be required to wash hands at the beginning and end of session
    - Child should come to the session with a mask/face covering, if one is not available, then GTS can supply one. Please do your best with bringing one, as supplies are limited.
    - All therapists will be wearing masks.
    - Social distancing will be attempted to be maintained as much as possible. This includes only having one therapist and child

in any treatment area. Therapists will also remain in one treatment area throughout the day.

- Cleaning/Sanitizing will occur between every session and deep cleaning/sterilization of the clinic will occur every evening.
- **Speech Therapy** - All speech therapy sessions will remain via Telehealth.
- **Section 28** - We continue to offer live sessions on a limited basis when social distancing can be maintained and the highest level of safeguards (social distancing, masks, frequent handwashing, etc...). Any live session will be cancelled if GTS staff or client is displaying any symptoms and are dependent upon staff availability. GTS is continuing to offer *TELEHEALTH* services for Section 28 participants and have had some amazing results thus far. This is allowing for our BHP staff to connect with the children they support, provide social/emotional support, prompt/cue about self-care activities, assist in developing a schedule/routine, prevent isolation, etc...
- **Community Supports** - We continue to offer *limited* “live” Community Supports; however, these are based in the office. GTS has created extra space to allow for social distancing and many participants have their own “office”, while many of our staff are working from home when possible. Please know we have taken significant precautions, exceeding CDC guidelines. For example, we have decreased the number of staff, deep clean every night, do not allow individuals displaying any symptoms to attend, clean all items after use, hand wash/hand sanitize repeatedly, using masks, etc... In addition, we have begun utilizing *TELEHEALTH* for Community Supports. This has been a great addition, as individuals who have been sheltering in place have been able to interact with their peers.

GTS is working diligently to create options for all individuals through the use of technology and other resources to provide education and needed services. We truly appreciate your patience and flexibility, as we problem solve through these new challenges. GTS is here to provide support and assist with any needs you may have!

Thank you and be well!

Ryan Gallant, MOT, OTR/L