

From: Maurice Jones
Sent: Friday, April 17, 2020 4:55 PM
To: Town Email Users
Subject: Town Manager's Friday Update 4-17-20
Attachments: [Child Care Opportunity](#); [Updated 4-14 ECC-DAYCARE OPTIONS \(1\).docx](#)

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Hello Everyone,

You have been asked to turn your life upside down in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, and you have responded wonderfully. We still have a ways to go, so please take the time you need to care for yourself and your family so you can sustain throughout this event. I'll share resources again at the bottom of this email if you need help coping during these challenging times. Do not be afraid to ask for help; we all need it from time to time.

Physical Distancing

Numbers worldwide and nationally may begin to improve. In some places they already have. The science shows us that we're not yet on the back side of the curve yet—meaning locally we're still seeing the number of COVID-19 cases increase daily. That means we still have a long way to go until recovery, and further physical distancing efforts are necessary. The Office of Risk Management continues to speak with departments about how staff should spread out more. Please be thoughtful when you're near other Town staff, and keep your distance—at least six feet apart. And beginning next week we are requiring that masks be worn throughout the common areas of our facilities and when working in close conditions with others. For more information please see my email from today.

While you're increasing your physical distance, consider remaining socially connected. Jump on a FaceTime video; consider a virtual game night with coworkers or friends via Zoom or another platform; and/or simply pick up the phone and call a friend or loved one. It will can go a long way in connecting with folks.

Working from Home

A lot of Town staff have moved their office to their home. This is a great help in the physical distancing effort. Not all Town staff have that option. Those who are able to change their schedules and locations are helping the staff who cannot. The fewer people we have working in the same physical location, the more we can slow the spread of this virus. If you can, please consider working from home.

TOWNtalk *Special Edition*

Be on the lookout early next week for a special edition of TOWNtalk with stories about Town staff. You're all doing excellent work—some of you are maintaining your normal work while others are picking up new and different duties. You all deserve recognition for these efforts, and I can't wait to read all about them. If you have a story to tell, email info@townofchapelhill.org.

Stay at Home

When you're not at work and not out picking up essential supplies (like food and, of course, toilet paper), please remember that all of North Carolina is under a stay-at-home order. Take time to get outside and go for a walk or spend time in your yard, but please stay at home unless you have an essential need. Like the physical distancing mentioned above, everything we do now will help reduce the timeline back to recovery.

Resources

Here are a list of resources that may be helpful to you and your family during the pandemic:

- Child Care opportunities are attached
- Submit employee questions and concerns to the Office of Risk Management at 919-969- 5035, rallen@townofchapelhill.org
- Contact the Town’s Wellness Clinic: 919-968-2796, <https://chapelhillwellnessatwork.org/>
 - Please call before visiting
 - Please note: the Town’s Wellness Clinic does not have the capability to test for coronavirus; the staff can recommend whether you should seek additional medical guidance
- Your Blue Cross and Blue Shield health plan provides video diagnosis options.
Visit <https://member.carefirst.com/members/health-wellness/video-visit.page>.
- Contact the Ombuds at ombuds@townofchapelhill.org or 919-265-0806
- If you need to talk with someone about personal problems and/or work-related problems that may impact your job performance, health, mental and emotional well-being, call 1-800-326-3864 or visit bhsonline.com.

Thanks again for all that are doing to keep the business of the people going during this crisis. Stay safe.

All the Best,
Maurice

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