



INFORMATION FOR LEXINGTON LEADERS October 8, 2020

Dear Lexington Leaders,

It's so nice to be able to address our leaders in Albany, Fulton and Schoharie together as one group! In this newsletter, we will provide general information for leaders across the agency, and then break out information that is pertinent to specific locations.

We are looking forward to the next three weeks during which time we hope to see every employee, at an informational meeting, service recognition, or staff appreciation event! As you know, at the informational meetings we will be discussing not only the merger, but the new day and residential models of staffing for the agency. Please support your staff with this new information, field their questions and help them to understand the importance of this new model which will allow us more flexibility in delivering quality programming to the people we support. We appreciate your input to date, and look forward to discussions with all staff about this issue.

Please congratulate the following employees that were recognized yesterday in Schoharie:

DSPs:

Above and Beyond Awards - Beth Gaylord, Brian Shafer, Maria Roe & Christina Lopez
Employee of the Year - Dan Levers and Krystal Davis

Support:

Above and Beyond Awards - Chelsea Carr (shhh...will be awarded today)
Employee of the Year - Mary Schaffer

Leader:

Above and Beyond Awards - Tina Goldswier, Lori Bartlett & Alesha Smith

Employee of the Year - Larry Addams

We are looking forward to recognizing our employees in Fulton and Albany during the next two weeks.

Thank you for your support and your leadership. Don't forget to come through, and ensure that your staff do as well, for the Chicken BBQ for Schoharie Employees today. This is a thank you from the senior leadership team at Lexington to all our employees.

Shaloni

COVID-19 UPDATES

At Lexington, there are no people that we support that are positive, or in quarantine. There are a number of staff members who are in quarantine because of travel or exposure, but thankfully none have tested positive.

In the Community:

Albany County - 3,233 positive cases - an increase of 113 since September 30

Fulton County - 350 cases - an increase of 11 since September 30

Schoharie County - 87 - an increase of 2 since September 30

These numbers have held steady for the past few weeks, thankfully we really haven't seen any spikes.

Please continue to support your staff's good practices with hygiene and hand washing, social distancing, and agency-issued masks to keep the virus away from our agency and the people we support.



HELP FIGHT THE FLU!

#FightFlu #MaskUp #LatherUp #SleeveUp

Getting a flu vaccine is more important than ever during 2020-2021 to protect yourself, your family and the people we support from flu. A flu vaccine this season can also help reduce the burden on our healthcare systems responding to the COVID-19 pandemic and save medical resources for care of

COVID-19 patients. Lexington is offering FREE vaccines for employees through a series of flu clinics (Schoharie listed here and Fulton/Albany at document indicated) throughout the agency. We are also willing to give vaccines to any employee at more convenient times for them. Please contact Tracy Jurcsak for more information or to have employees schedule a flu shot outside of the flu vaccine schedule (518) 736-3890.

SCHOHARIE FLU CLINICS

Schoharie Day Hab

Friday, October 16 - 12PM-4PM

Tuesday, October 20 - 11AM-2PM

Wednesday, October 21 - 11AM-2PM

Tuesday, October 28 - 11AM-2PM

Wednesday, October 20 - 11AM-2PM

Please contact Christina Lopez to make an appointment, clopez@schohariearc.org. For questions or further information, contact Jamie Dingman at dingmaj@thearclexington.org or (518) 773-7929.

Here are some Flu Vaccine/Fight the Flu resources:

[Flu Vaccine Clinics Fulton and Albany](#)
[Video by Dr. Kevin Cope - Importance of Flu Vaccine this year](#)
[Video by CDC about Flu Vaccines](#)
[CDC Poster for Flu Vaccines and Essential Workers](#)

MEDICAL POLICY REVISION

Please see the revised policy M150-1 Medication Pass Guidelines for Relief Staff ([link here](#)). The policy has been revised to remove the need for the staff to call the RN for permission to pass meds. Staff will continue to do the review of medications per the policy. Staff will continue to need to call the RN if any in-servicing is needed. Please review this revised policy with your staff. If you have any questions or need further information please contact Kathy Kane at kanek@thearclexington.org or call (518) 775-5442



We are holding **in-person informational staff meetings** starting in Schoharie this week and starting Monday in Fulton to discuss changes with the merger and our residential and day program models. Details about Albany meetings are still being worked out. Meetings in Fulton will either be at the Nigra Arts Center or the Hilltop Fire Department, 7770 State Highway 29 in Dolgeville. **Please connect with each one of your staff encourage and support them to attend!**

Location - Schoharie - Tent in front of annex building
Thursday, October 8 | 9:00 am | 11:00 am
Friday, October 9 | 9:00 am | 11:00 am

Location - Fulton - Tent in front of Paul Nigra Center for Creative Arts
[Tuesday, October 13 | 3PM](#) – Nigra Arts Center
[Wednesday, October 14 | 5PM](#) – Nigra Arts Center
[Thursday, October 15 | 9AM](#) | 5PM – Nigra Arts Center
[Friday, October 16 | 12PM](#) – Nigra Arts Center

[Monday, October 19 | 9AM](#) – Nigra Arts Center
[Monday, October 19 | 3PM](#) | 5PM – Hilltop Fire Department, Dolgeville
[Tuesday, October 20 | 11AM](#) | 6PM – Nigra Arts Center
[Tuesday, October 20 | 6PM](#) – Nigra Arts Center
[Thursday, October 22 | 1PM](#) – Nigra Arts Center
[Friday, October 23 | 9AM](#) | 2PM – Nigra Arts Center

We are asking every employee to attend one of these meetings. Please contact Rene Craig at craig@thearclexington.org to sign-up for the meeting you or your staff would like to attend for Fulton by 10/13. **We need an RSVP so that social distancing protocols can be followed. Masks are also required.**

NEW TRAVEL ADVISORY - NEW STATE AND GUIDELINES FOR INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL

The NYS travel restrictions have been updated adding New Mexico to the list. No states were removed from the advisory.

In addition, on September 28, NYS issued an additional travel advisory stating **anyone entering NYS from a country designated under a CDC level 2 or 3 COVID-19 health notice must quarantine for 14 days from the last day in the designated country.** This applies to everyone - including essential workers. The list of countries can be found at: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/map-and-travel-notice.html#travel-2>

We are asking all staff planning to travel internationally to speak with their supervisor prior to this travel.

The updated document is attached. Please ensure you remove the old Travel Advisory Guidelines posted by your screening book/sign-in at your location and replace it with the attached document by the end of the day 10/8.

FOR FULTON AND ALBANY - CLINIC APPOINTMENTS

In order to keep a smooth flow of patient traffic and prevent "mixing" of individuals from houses/households when coming to clinic appointments in Fulton and Albany, please refer to the [attached document](#) for new procedures put in place to keep everyone safe.

PLEASE remind staff to call the clinic phone when they arrive outside the clinic, before coming in. All the phone numbers are in the policy for various buildings or types of appointments.

If you have any questions or need further information please contact Nancy DeSando at desandn@thearclexington.org

We appreciate EVERYTHING you do for the people we support and for your staff.
THANK YOU for helping us navigate to our "new" agency and welcome our new
Lexington family members.

We are so grateful for your support and work during this transition.

-Shaloni and Dan

This newsletter will be archived at the following link:

<https://thearclexington.org/lex-leaders-covid-updates>
