



Providing Essential Services



Pennsylvania has determined that many of Via's services are essential. Forty-six of our Direct Support Professionals are providing support to 113 people with disabilities through in-person and remote supports in Community Participation, In-Home Support, Behavioral Support, Early Intervention and Employment Services.

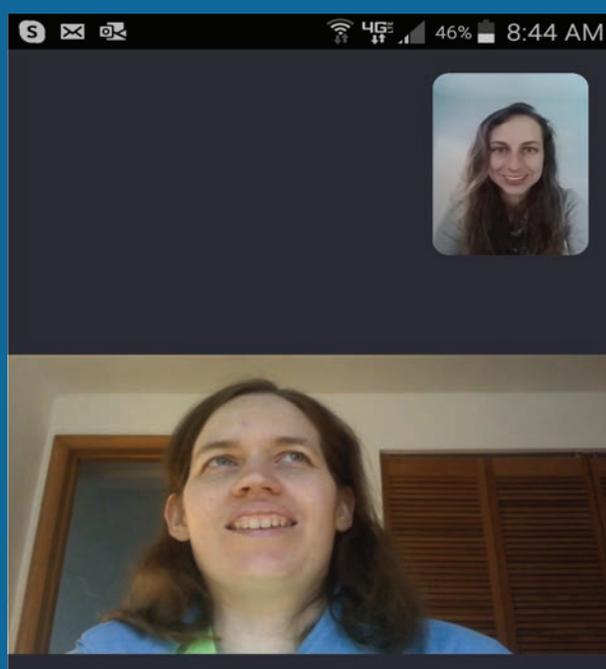
Our employees are going above and beyond during this crisis and are using innovative and creative ways to provide services while keeping themselves, participants and the community safe.

Thanks for all your support.

Teletherapy Sessions

Kim receives Autism services from Via and is really enjoying her teletherapy sessions during this crisis. Her behavioral specialist, Lauren, skypes with Kim an hour or more every morning to work on grounding exercises, self-care plans, social skills and stress management. When asked what she likes about her sessions Kim said, "I like the book we're reading together, coping skills I'm learning and topics that could help me. I like to talk!"

Through teletherapy, Lauren can also check in with Kim's parents. They said, "Kim really enjoys her Skype time with Lauren. Lauren has truly gone the extra mile to make this happen and we really appreciate it!"



Your Support is Appreciated

THANK YOU!



We know this is a difficult time and are sensitive to the fact that many people have lost jobs, are concerned about income and are dealing with stressors that none of us could have imagined a short time ago. We understand people's first commitment is to their families, and charitable giving takes a backseat. However, for people who may be able to continue charitable giving, the CARES Act includes a provision to encourage it, in addition to providing funds to individuals, families and businesses. For 2020, taxpayers who claim the standard deduction will be able to claim an additional \$300 for charitable donations. In addition, the legislation suspends the 60%-of-AGI limit on cash donations for people who itemize.

Via is doing everything it can to support the dedicated people who provide these services

now, and those who will do so again after this is over. At this time, we are continuing to pay for health insurance for all staff, including those who are temporarily furloughed, at a cost of \$73,177.59 per month.

If you can donate to help fund staff health insurance - thank you. You may send a check made out to Via of the Lehigh Valley, 336 West Spruce St., Bethlehem, PA 18017 ATTN: Development or online by clicking the button below.

Check Out Via's New Webpage

If you are looking for activities to do with your family during this time, check out Via's new webpage. Go to ViaNet.org and click on COVID-19 Employee Resources. Although created to help Via employees provide services to participants, this page has a mix of websites and activity ideas for anyone.

While we don't endorse any particular product or curriculum, we do want to share these free, online resources. We want to continually update this page, so if you have additional resources to share, please email your ideas and links to Via@ViaNet.org.