

March 16<sup>th</sup>, 2020

LACADA, like many businesses both locally and around the country, is being impacted by the COVID – 19 (Coronavirus) situation and the announcement of Michigan’s state of emergency declaration issued by Governor Whitmer.

LACADA has and continues to receive communication and recommendations from state and federal agencies and funders about how to monitor and mitigate the spread of disease in facilities like our shelter. We are taking the situation very serious and working diligently on preventive measures. The health and safety of our clients, staff and volunteers is our number one concern. Based on recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), LACADA has increased all sanitizing routines throughout the shelter and offices, provided all residential clients with information on proper sanitizing of their personal space. Our practices and protocols have been updated to put us in the best position to identify and address individuals with a risk of infection exposure, accessing medical care and including procedures to quarantine a resident if necessary.

Following recommendations from the CDC and other health organizations;

- Beginning Tuesday, March 17, 2020, LACADA Administrative offices and Outreach offices will be closed to the public. This includes canceling our weekly support group. We will continue to provide supportive services via telephone, email and video calls.
- The crisis Help-Line and Text line will remain available 24/7.
  - LACADA Help-Line: 810-667-4175
  - Text Line: 810-656-8595
- To provide for the health and wellbeing of all staff, we are suspending all non-essential meetings, attendance at trainings and travel. We will be replacing in person meetings with video and telephone conferences.
- LACADA is limiting donations to cleaning and paper products. Please call ahead to schedule drop off.
- At this time, LACADA’s emergency shelter remains open. We are committed to providing safe shelter to survivors of domestic and sexual violence while implementing strong, comprehensive sanitation protocols.

As an organization committed to strengthening our community, we believe it is imperative to do all we can to help reduce the spread of COVID-19. The situation is ever-changing and we will continue to monitor it, review recommendations, make updates to protocols when appropriate and send updates as needed.

Tracey A. Walker  
Executive Director