

Kathleen Klosner
Chief Program Officer
Upstate Cerebral Palsy
125 Business Park Drive
Utica, New York 13502
Phone: (315) 927-2091



June 16, 2020

Dear Families,

I have talked to so many of you over the past several weeks as you sought answers to the question of when visitation restrictions would end. We know that this has been an emotionally trying time for both you and your family member. So many family members, individuals receiving supports and provider agencies across New York State spoke out, advocating for restrictions to lessen. The phone calls you have made; the letters you have written have paid off. This afternoon, Governor Cuomo announced **that certified group homes can begin visits effective Friday 6/19/20**. I have been in contact with OPWDD Region 2 Director, Ann Marie Peterson who confirms that visitation has been approved. Her office is working with OPWDD Central office to develop the guidelines for agencies to follow. Ann Marie advised that there has been a lot of work already completed and anticipates that information will be forthcoming this week. We are committed to making this work and opening visitation once we have received the guidelines. We have already put many practices in place as we opened up Window visits. It is our hope that we are already engaging in many of the protections OPWDD will require. I will continue to provide email updates this week in anticipation beginning to schedule visits.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Kathy Klosner", written over a horizontal line.

Kathy Klosner
Chief Program Officer