Greetings from the Health Care Explorers Program,

Our Geriatrics Career Development (GCD) Family is just that—a family made up of youth, parents/guardians and all of our community partners and stakeholders. The health, safety and overall wellbeing of our family, and yours, is always our top priority.

We find ourselves in an extremely unique situation at an extremely complicated ever changing time. Along with supporting our participants we also have the privilege of serving the most vulnerable group of individuals being impacted through this current health crisis. With this in mind, we have been closely monitoring the rapidly-changing situation around COVID-19 (Coronavirus), responding to information as it arises and preparing for all possible scenarios, with the goal of continuing to safely serve our residents, participants, families and the GCD staff.

In addition to following the guidance provided by the Center for Disease Control (CDC), World Health Organization (WHO) and local health departments, we are regularly consulting top medical experts as we implement our response as an organization. At this time the Health Care Explorers (HCE) Program, GCD will be following the same protocols as the New York City Department of Education.

With NYC Schools being closed until 4/20/2020. As a precaution, GCD is taking the following actions which are effective until further notice:

- All HCE programming has been suspended. This includes both Bronx and Manhattan facilities.
- All HCE staff travel and face-to-face contact with school personnel has been suspended.
- All vendor visits to our facilities have been suspended.
- Parents, guardians or approved emergency contacts are restricted from visiting the New Jewish Home at this time
- Participants who are not enrolled in a paid internship through the Health Care Explorers (HCE) program will not be allowed to visit The New Jewish Home during this time. We are looking into possible distance learning opportunities for ALL HCE participants.
- Use of The New Jewish Home facilities by external individuals and groups has been suspended.
We strongly encourage you to visit our website at jewishhome.org/covid-19/ for the most up to date information on this situation.

On the behalf of the entire HCE team we want to ensure all participants and their families are aware that we are taking all necessary precautions during this time. Our goal is to be a resource for you and your families and support you through this ever changing and ever-evolving situation. As a collective, we understand there are numerous questions and concerns regarding this matter and we vow to keep the lines of communication open, along with continuing to send any updates as received.

In service,

Nicole Cash  
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The New Jewish Home

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