



## COVID-19 UPDATE

JULY 14, 2020

On Monday evening, July 13, the Elderhaus Board of Directors met via Zoom to weigh options for reopening Elderhaus/Mindset, following our closure March 15, 2020, due to the COVID-19/coronavirus pandemic.

The Board recognizes the strain that many of our participants, caregivers, and staff are under due to our mandated closure. After careful consideration, the Board has concluded that it is not possible to reopen within the next 90 days. The Board's current goal for reopening is **November 2, 2020**. However, *this proposed date remains subject to change, depending on developments over the course of the next 90 days.*

The Board's decision centered around two primary factors:

(1) Safety considerations.

The trajectory of COVID-19 in the nation as a whole continues to worsen. While the trend in Colorado is not as severe as in neighboring states, the Larimer County Health Department currently assesses the risk level as "Medium" (<https://www.larimer.org/health/communicable-disease/coronavirus-covid-19/larimer-county-positive-covid-19-numbers>), and nearly all our participants are members of a population that is considered to have high risk factors. A target date of November 2020 will allow time to continue monitoring present trends while also taking into account the possibility of an additional surge in September and October.

(2) Regulatory considerations.

On Friday, July 10, the Colorado Department of Health Care Policy and Financing (HCPF) released an operational memo ([Operational Memo - Updated Information Pertaining to Day Program Services in Response to COVID-19 \(July 10, 2020\)](#)) detailing requirements for reopening Adult Day Programs like Elderhaus/Mindset. It currently is not possible or practical for the majority of Elderhaus participants to conform to all these mandates, including – among other requirements – the mandate for all participants and staff to wear masks *at all times* while also maintaining social distance *at all times*.

The Board will continue to assess whether it may be legal, safe, and practical to reopen Elderhaus/Mindset on Monday, November 2, 2020. We are developing a service model that we believe will reasonably minimize risks to our participants and staff, and will explore the possibility of obtaining variances that will allow us to safely meet the needs of our participants and caregivers as soon as possible.

The Board will provide follow-up information no later than September 30, and before then if there are significant developments.

We look forward to resuming Elderhaus/Mindset services as soon as it is safe, legal, and practical to do so. If we can be of assistance in the meantime, please do not hesitate to contact me.

For the Board of Directors,



Tim McLemore  
Executive Director