



March 16, 2020

On behalf of Zacharias Sexual Abuse Center staff, volunteers and Board of Directors, we are informing you that ZCenter's offices in our Gurnee and Skokie locations will be closed March 18 through March 31, 2020.

ZCenter has initiated contact wherever possible with key community partners to communicate our services availability during this time.

Continued reports of confirmed cases and social distancing methods to limit the spread of the virus will potentially impact the people in our communities, and will also impact our ability to serve clients within these communities.

Our Office and Services

The health and safety of our employees and clients is of great concern to ZCenter. We are following the guidance of the **Center for Disease Control**, and are taking proactive steps to implement additional health safety measures in our office to best prevent the spread of respiratory illnesses.

- **24/7 Support Line** has increased capacity to anticipate a higher volume of callers 847-872-7799
- **Counseling Services** will be provided via telehealth measures and will be determined based on what is in the best interest of our clients. All telehealth measures will be confidential.
- **Medical Advocacy** services will be provided through expanded education and referral resources provided to Lake County hospitals. In cooperation with our SANE partners, our 24/7 Medical advocacy services will be provided via telehealth to survivors who elect to have supportive contact with ZCenter advocates during their hospital intervention.

Zacharias Sexual Abuse Center

4275 Old Grand Avenue, Gurnee, IL 60031

4232 Dempster Street, Skokie, IL 60076

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- **Community-based services**, i.e. professional training, community and prevention-education will resume when applicable per CDC and governmental guidelines.
- Our response to client services, as well as volunteer and internship inquiries, will continue via phone or telehealth communication.

We hope that everyone in our community remains safe and healthy as we work together to address this public health challenge.

To each of our grantees, donors, and community partners impacted by COVID-19, our thoughts are with you. Your support of survivors during this time is paramount as we continue to provide services within our community.

Now is the time to lean on one another for support and resources while we navigate these difficult circumstances together. Thank you for your steadfast commitment to our survivors even in times of grave challenges and rapid change.

Sincerely,

Torrie Flink
Executive Director

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