

March 17, 2020

Dear HAP Friends and Community Members,

As the largest Hmong nonprofit serving the Hmong, Southeast Asian, and the immigrant and refugee communities of Minnesota, we have received an increase volume of calls and questions about COVID-19.

We are actively monitoring communications from the <u>CDC</u> and <u>MN Department of Health</u>, and preparing for possible scenarios to ensure that we have the right plans and resources to support the health and well-being of the entire community. We are vigilantly working with our local and national partners and allies and maintaining direct communication with the Office of Governor Tim Walz and Lieutenant Governor Peggy Flanagan to help elevate your concerns and questions.

The safety and well-being of our clients, volunteers, visitors and employees continues to be our top priority as we continue to monitor and respond to the evolving impact of COVID-19. We know that in times of crisis, HAP's ability to stay on course with our services is critical to the stability of families and the community.

Today, we announce several important steps to protect the health, safety, and well-being of our community while allowing our core operations to continue as best we can.

Effective March 18, 2020, we are taking the following measures to prevent the spread of illness and to create the safest possible environment for everyone:

- **Social Distancing:** We are suspending all face to face group and client interactions, workshops, job fairs, training classes, focus groups, home visits, outreach events, office tours, and conferences, until further notice.
- Walk-in Support & Client Needs: We are actively working with our leadership team and staff to minimize the volume of people coming in and out of our offices. We will find alternative ways for clients who need to visit our offices to sign forms, obtain bus cards, or other resources, to maintain stability. As such, these office locations will remain open: 1075 Arcade Street, 394 University Avenue, and 2100 Plymouth Avenue North, Suite 135.
- Community Interactions: Staff in our MNsure Navigation program located at Hmong Village (1001 Johnson Parkway) and the staff in our 21st Century Community Learning Center at the Community School of Excellence (270 Larpenteur Avenue), will be relocated to our HAP Arcade Office at 1075 Arcade Street, Saint Paul, 55106.

## HAP – Embracing Our Diverse Community

Arcade Office (Main) 1075 Arcade Street Saint Paul, MN 55106

Phone: 651.495.9160 Fax: 651.495.1699

Hmoob Toj Siab Children's House 240 Plato Blvd E. St. Paul, MN 55107 Phone: 651.207.1852 **University Office** 

394 University Ave, W, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Saint Paul, MN 55103 Phone: 651.495.9160 Fax: 651.495.1699

HAP Academy OIC 240 Plato Blvd E. St. Paul, MN 55107 Phone: 651.495.1557 Fax: 651.495.1699 North Minneapolis Office 2100 Plymouth Ave N., Ste 135 Minneapolis, MN 55411 Phone: 612.236.9069 Fax: 612.236.9079

HAP MNsure Office Hmong Village 1001 Johnson Pkwy, Ste A3 St. Paul, MN 55106 Phone: 651.493.1742 HAP Transportation 150 Sycamore St. W. St. Paul, MN 55117 Phone: 651.558.9786 Fax: 612.294.2461

Family Support Services Office Community School of Excellence 270 Larpenteur Ave W. St. Paul, MN 55113 Phone: 612.294.2460



For over 30 years, HAP has been the go-to center for members of our community in times of crisis. HAP was founded as a promise between two cultures, Hmong and American, to lift up the lives of and empower New Americans to have an equal and equitable footing in American culture. We carry this promise every day when we serve our community, who embodies the richness and diversity of the cultures they come from. We promise to be here for you and to help you obtain the resources you need to stay healthy and safe.

We will continue to provide updates as things change. Stay up to date with us in the following ways:

- Call us at (651) 495-9160 if you are not sure what to do, if you have questions, or where to go for additional support and resources.
- Email us at askhap@hmong.org if you have questions or concerns about the situation.
- Visit our website for up to date information: www.hmong.org
- Follow us on Social Media for the latest updates, and tag us so we know what you're thinking:
  - o Facebook Page: @HmongAmericanPartnership
  - o Twitter: #HAP, #HmongAmericanPartnership
  - o LinkedIn: @HmongAmericanPartnership

We are grateful for the dedication of our staff and partners, and we are inspired by the outpouring of care and kindness throughout the community. Although there is much uncertainty that faces us, we remain hopeful and resilient. We will not be deterred. Instead, it will make us stronger in our unified approach to creating a stronger, thriving community.

Thank you for all the ways you have supported HAP and our work together.

In Humble Service,

Christopher Petersen

Anspie Donate

Board Chair, HAP

Bao Vang

President & CEO