



For Immediate Release

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United Senior Services Announces Extended Closure of Local Centers in Effort to Keep Older Adults Safe

SPRINGFIELD, Ohio (June 29) – In an effort to ensure the health and safety of older adults in Clark County, United Senior Services, with the endorsement of their Board of Directors, announces the extended closure of their downtown Springfield center, as well as their Enon, Villa, and New Carlisle satellite locations. USS essential services including meals, transportation, grocery delivery and in-home care, will continue uninterrupted.

“While I know that this decision will disappoint some of our members, I feel strongly that keeping local residents safe, especially older adults most vulnerable to the effects of COVID-19, has got to be our first priority,” said Maureen Fagans, CEO of United Senior Services. “We will not put our members, our staff or the clients we serve at higher risk.”

As the State of Ohio designated focal point for senior services in Clark County, USS is a major hub of activity in the community, with an average of 1,500 individuals visiting the downtown location each week prior to COVID-19. USS is mindful that many of the activities members love most will not be possible while adhering to health and safety guidelines provided by the CDC.

According to the CDC, keeping your distance from people outside your home is one of the best tools to combat the spread of COVID-19. Since people can spread the virus before they know they are sick it is important to stay away from others when possible even if they, or you, have no symptoms.

Clark County Combined Health District Director Charles Patterson applauds the USS decision to remain closed to recreation and activities. “Maureen and the USS team have been vigilant since the start. I appreciate their ongoing evaluation of what is best for the population they serve and for the 100-member workforce there. Continuing to remain closed will certainly help to prevent the spread of COVID-19 in their centers,” said Patterson.

For now, all USS centers will remain closed until September 8th. “With the number of confirmed cases of COVID-19 still rising in Clark County, the decision of USS to remain closed is the responsible thing to do. It is the best thing for the staff, for the thousands of local members who frequent the centers, and especially for the most vulnerable – the seniors in our community who depend on USS for meals, rides and care every day,” said Sheila Rice, President of the Board of Directors at USS.

“I am so proud of USS and our decision to put health and safety first. I hope others in the community will see our decision as an example of responsible leadership and consider similar actions,” said Michele Hemphill, member of the Board of Directors at USS.

Right now there is no certainty about when USS might be able to re-open their centers and resume in-person activities.



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“We have been planning for the day our members can come back through our doors since we first closed,” said Fagans. “Along with our loyal members, we will continue to look forward to being together again at USS. As soon as we are confident it is safe to do so, we will reopen to our members.”

Seniors in need of meals, grocery delivery or other essential services provided by USS should call 937-323-4948. Staff are available by phone from 8:30am to 4:30pm, Monday through Friday.