



January 15, 2021

Dear Parent, Guardian, or Community Member,

Effective February 1, 2021, Early Stages is providing in-person evaluation appointments in a limited capacity.

To reduce the risk of coronavirus transmission, **we continue to serve the majority of our children and families remotely.** However, for children whose evaluations can *only* be completed in person, we provide appointments at our Walker Jones location.

Each evaluation team, including the parent or guardian, will discuss whether there is a need for an in-person evaluation, including (1) information required to complete the evaluation and (2) challenges in gathering this information virtually.

We have taken many steps to ensure everyone's health and safety at the center, including:

- Updating ventilation with Dedicated Outdoor Air System and MERV-13/14 filters
- Installing HEPA filters in all evaluation rooms
- Conducting health screenings, including a temperature check, upon entry into the building
- Restricting room capacities to support proper social distancing
- Providing enhanced Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) for staff
- Providing masks for families who need them
- Conducting enhanced cleaning throughout the day and between clients

Other Early Stages functions continue remotely for the time being. We continue to accept referrals, provide screenings, hold eligibility and IEP meetings, attend Strong Start transition meetings, and host workshops and professional development sessions virtually.

We are grateful for our families and community members, who have partnered with us to navigate the difficulties of the pandemic and have helped us keep this important work moving forward.

Best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sean Compagnucci".

Sean Compagnucci
Executive Director, Early Stages