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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
April 13, 2020

All employees required to wear cloth masks

EAGLE LAKE, Maine – As of today, Northern Maine General has no consumers or employees reported to have COVID-19. Still, during this international COVID-19 pandemic, the agency executed another strong preventative measure this morning.

Employees in NMG’s Long-Term Care facility have been required to wear donated masks since last Monday, April 6. As of today, ALL remaining employees are required to wear cloth masks. The masks must be worn in ALL situations during work, and at ALL times when anywhere on the NMG campus in Eagle Lake, when at the Caribou office, and when at other locations on behalf of the agency. The only exception is when an employee is alone in his or her office.

“NMG believes in using an abundance of caution during this time,” said CEO Michelle Raymond, in an interoffice email to the Administrative Team this morning. “This is preventative in nature, as an extra step to keep our facilities, staff, and consumers protected.”

By the end of today, every employee will have received a homemade mask donated by Shannon Hebert of SDH Designs and her helpers. NMG has labeled each one by employee name, and Raymond has prohibited employees from sharing them.

In addition, Raymond has instructed employees that they are required to wash their individual masks every day; directions were provided in the email and with each mask. Administrators and Residential Managers who have washing machines in their facilities will have the ability to help employees with the daily washing of masks.

With its robust Pandemic Plan in play, NMG continues to be proactive by planning for all situations where the virus may eventually present itself.

Northern Maine General is a nonprofit social services organization serving Aroostook County, with business offices in Eagle Lake and Caribou. Founded in 1907, NMG provides long-term care, rehabilitation, home and community supports, behavioral health services, target case management, and consultation services and resources. Contracted services include subsidized apartments.

Our mission is to provide individuals with the highest standard of care and help all of the people we serve enjoy life to the fullest potential.

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NMG is an equal opportunity provider and employer

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