

27 October 2020

Dear Mambourin Community Member,

Re: Update on Mambourin's return to services plan

This week we were all very happy and relieved to hear that Victoria's hard work has paid off and we can take the next step out of restrictions. I would especially like to thank you, and all our community members, for your vigilance in keeping everyone safe these past few months.

Following the State Government's announcements, I would like to give you an overview of Mambourin's return to services plan in the hope that this will answer some of your questions and give you an idea of what to expect going forward.

As a disability service provider, Mambourin must follow the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) *COVID-19 Plan for the Disability Services Sector*.

This Plan follows the Steps outlined in the government's roadmap of restrictions across metropolitan Melbourne and regional Victoria. We are currently in Step 2 "heavily restricted" and scheduled to move to Step 3 "restricted" at midnight 27 October.

The Plan states that during Step 2 and Step 3, only essential services should be provided by disability services at their centres.

Under this plan we will be able to offer hub-based group programs when the roadmap moves to the "COVID Normal" step.

Unfortunately, I cannot say exactly when COVID Normal will be. The government's website (www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au) says this will occur when there are no new cases for 28 days and no active cases (state-wide). With the excellent results in Victoria this week, we are optimistic that we will be able to resume group services before Christmas.

More information on the roadmaps can be found at:

www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au/coronavirus-covid-19-restrictions-roadmaps



I know that many of you will be disappointed that we cannot return to group programs just yet, but the health and safety of our community remains our number one priority. We believe a careful and measured approach will see us reopen better and stronger than before, with minimal risk for the people we support.

In the meantime, with the "four reasons to leave home" no longer in place from midnight tonight, we can enjoy more options in our community supports. From tomorrow we have more freedom to travel outside our immediate area and experience more varied community activities. We can also begin to support small groups in the community and with outdoor activities.

If your support needs have changed or you would like to engage in more activities with the easing of these restrictions, please contact your local hub manager.

I'd also like to take this chance to remind you to please let your local hub manager know if you have experienced symptoms and have been tested, or are a close contact of a suspected or confirmed COVID-19 case. This includes anyone who has been tested and is awaiting their results or is self-isolating due to symptoms or close contact. We are required to report this information to the NDIS to ensure everyone's safety.

We continue to closely monitor government advice and will keep you updated as soon as we receive any information that affects Mambourin's service delivery options.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact your local hub manager. Alternatively, you can email me directly at CEO@mambourin.org

Thank you, as always, for your patience and understanding during this time.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Rohan Braddy".

Rohan Braddy
Chief Executive Officer

