



**A Response to the COVID19 Pandemic from – Charles Sperling, Executive Director
STAND, Incorporated**

I want to remind us of our collective strength developed through the many struggles we have overcome or will have to overcome. We are a collective community of survivors, overcoming and working through a variety of challenges, and now COVID19. We recognize that this pandemic has changed life for all of us and we are navigating confusion and uncertainty each day. It is imperative that we follow the guidelines and recommendations provided by The Centers for Disease and Prevention, and Public Health; Remember, “knowledge without application has no merit”. We must remain anchored in our faith and willing to follow these safety guidelines.

Some of the members of the Metro Atlanta community are people in long-term recovery from alcohol and other drug use; some are challenged to maintain stability with mental health. This can be especially difficult during a global health crisis such as this. This is an unprecedented time; we are adjusting in many ways to what is now being considered a “new normal”. We STAND with you offering encouragement and a reminder of the strength available with-in the recovery community.

STAND, Incorporated, its’ Board of Directors and staff are available and responsive to the Behavioral Health Community we serve. Although we are aligned with the federal, state, and local public health guidelines, we are continuing to offer prevention education, recovery support service, and community education services through virtual and telephonic platforms.

If you are in recovery and looking for support, or seeking to engage virtually in individual or group check-ins, virtual all recovery meetings, or just peer to peer support please access those services through The DeKalb Open Opportunities for Recovery (The DOOR); Please call: 404-288-4668 or 678-914-7708.

If you are seeking Substance Abuse Intensive Outpatient Services, we are providing groups, individual counseling and Addictive Disease Support Services virtually. You can schedule a screening and intake by calling: 404-288-4668

If you are a youth, teenager or young adult interested in substance abuse education, HIV & HCV Testing, education and prevention, as well as participating in virtual social gatherings with others your age while accessing incentives, you can get connected by contacting our Project Connect Prevention Team (PCP) at: 770-866-7716

As the entire world grapples with navigating and responding to this pandemic, we are pleased that we can be here for you. We will continue to update our website with

information that will be useful, as well as, our social media pages. In addition, we will post Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ's) that will help you navigate our services virtually.

Until then stay safe and follow the guidelines outlined by the Centers for Disease Control, which you can find here: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>

