June 24, 2020

To our clients, partners, board members and communities:

In the continuing COVID-19 virus pandemic, the Lower Savannah Council of Governments is being vigilant as we continue to provide services while keeping our staff, clients and partners safe. Currently, our office is following the operational protocol of Accelerate SC (the Governor’s COVID-19 advisory team). We are in the first phase of reentry with COG staff working half their time in the office and half their time at home. Please note that the organization **will not hold**, and the staff **will limit attendance**, at public meetings, trainings, workshops or community meetings until further notice. The wearing of masks and social distancing is required in the building. We are always available by phone and email communications. Finally, the office is closed to visitors, volunteers and others.

We are paying careful attention to the number of COVID cases and deaths in the state of South Carolina, in the Lower Savannah Region and in our six counties. We are also keeping abreast of how the state reopens under the Accelerate SC guidelines. It is our hope that we will move to the second phase of reopening over the summer. However, this will depend upon the number of cases in the region and Accelerate SC protocol.

During the last three months, the doors of the SC Works Centers across the region were closed but staff manned the offices and services were available to the public on an as needed or 1-to-1 basis. Beginning this month, the Centers in Aiken, Orangeburg and Barnwell will be open. The opening of the remaining three Centers is in the planning phase. Our other programs are continuing to provide services in the same manner as we have been over the last three months.

The LSCOG has institute the ongoing measures to protect our staff and the public. As the situation changes, some or all of these policies may change based on new federal or state guidelines. These changes will be posted on our website – [www.lscog.org](http://www.lscog.org).

Best wishes,

[Signature]

William Molnar, Ph.D.
Executive Director