Greetings Illinois Academy friends,

Despite it being spring and the winter chill starting to leave us, nothing seems fresh and new with the challenge we are facing with COVID19. This special President’s message is one of reassurance and anticipation. Reassurance that your Illinois Academy is here to help support you and keep you informed throughout this trying time. Anticipation for upcoming opportunities that will have a slightly different look and feel.

Given Governor Pritzker’s most recent “Shelter in Place” order, many of Illinois dietitians are challenged with trying to still provide services to patients and clients. A ray of light in this dim time, though, came on March 19, when Governor Pritzker signed an Executive Order to expand telehealth services.

Interest in learning more about telehealth services? The Academy is hosting a webinar on telehealth this Thursday, March 26, from 2:00-3:30 PM CT. Whether you are new to delivering care via telehealth or want to learn more about the special guidelines from payers unique to the COVID-19 pandemic, this webinar is for you. Register for this webinar HERE. Log in is required.

Looking for additional resources? Visit the Academy’s COVID19 Nutrition Resource Center at www.eatright.org/coronavirus for tips to help keep families safe and healthy.

Anticipate that the annual Assembly and Advocacy Day will take on a bit different appearance this year given the curve ball we were tossed. Expect these events to be amended and take on a virtual aspect. Details are still being discussed with the respective Committees, but we wanted to give you the assurance that these opportunities will still be offered, just with a technology twist. More details to come.

Rest assured that your Illinois Academy is
here for you. Please reach out with your questions and/or concerns to headquarters@eatrightillinois.org.

In the meantime, SHINE ON. Be a beacon of light to others whether from the comforts of your home or even being on the front line serving meals to kids and families in need. Stay safe, healthy and well. Together, we will get through this challenging time and be stronger for it.

Cheers,

Christine M. Cliff, MPH, RDN, LDN, CLT
Illinois Academy President
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