

INFECTIOUS EFFECTS

COVID-19 PANDEMIC IMPACTS EVERYDAY LIVES

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*Photos submitted by sources

BUSINESSES:

"My dad owns a restaurant called Iron Horse Ale House in Chicago. Prior to COVID, the restaurant ran really smoothly. My dad has two other managers who own the business along with him, and they're his closest friends. Once COVID hit in March, they were forced to close for a couple weeks. My dad decided the restaurant wouldn't be making enough to upkeep the restaurant, and it was better to stay closed. Currently, it has been pretty rough because my sisters and I basically lost our jobs, and my dad has been under a lot of stress with the restaurant's finances. My dad and the two other owners are all debating with what they want to do with the restaurant. However, I do think they are deciding on possibly selling it because it is just getting too difficult."

CLAIRE DALY (12)



"My parents own the restaurant Plateia. Prior to COVID, we allowed walk-ins and reservations. COVID has played an effect with the business because we aren't allowed to seat people inside the restaurant. It's difficult to attract customers because we're only allowed to carry out. Now that it's cold out, we're heading into a challenge trying to get customers to order from the restaurant. However, my family and I are doing everything in our power to make the best of this situation and keep the restaurant flowing as smooth as possible given the circumstances."

CHRISTINA PAPADATOS (10)



PARENTS AS FRONTLINE WORKERS:

"[My dad] works at Illinois Bone and Joint and he's a foot and ankle surgeon. He has an office there, but he has [also] been going to Evanston Hospital as well as Highland Park [during the pandemic] because Glenbrook is a COVID only hospital. He's seen a lot fewer patients because a lot of people are scared to come in... [COVID has] changed family time a lot. It's more important now because [we] don't know how often we can do it or how it will affect anyone, so be grateful for the time you get to spend with your family. At first, it was really scary when corona was really bad because none of my family members wanted him to keep continuing to work. We didn't really know at first how bad it was and the precautions to take, but now I'm happy that he's helping people still throughout this time. Wear a mask, wash your hands, and keep people around you safe because it affects people working in the medical field."

MADELINE GOODMAN (11)



"My dad is a nurse in the Intensive Care Unit at Saint Francis Hospital in Evanston. During the pandemic, he's been taking care of COVID [patients]. That's where the worst cases of COVID go like when they need to be intubated or [are] severely ill. His life has definitely gotten a lot more tough. His work style has changed, and I know that he's been a lot more tired. He comes home really late sometimes, over 12 hours of work, so I do miss him. I can tell that when he comes home he's exhausted, and it is taking a toll on him. It makes me a little bit worried because he's putting himself at risk to take care of these people, but he never complains. He knows that what he's doing is meaningful. He's careful as much as he can be so I respect that a lot. I also want to pursue a medical career and seeing the pros and the cons of it during this time inspires me. Not only my dad but also all of his colleagues and everyone who's been persisting through this. I'm very proud of how he's taking it all and pulling through. I think it's important to stay positive through all of this."

CLAUDIA DAVID (12)

EXTENSIVE PRECAUTIONS:

"My dad is high-risk so I can't go out. I can't go to stores. I can't see my friends. Honestly, it's really challenging. The everyday life that I used to have before [COVID] was always going out and hanging out with my friends. I love my family a lot, but it's hard to see the same people every day. This pandemic has put us through a lot, but I've learned so much. I try to look at the positives and look away from the negatives during a time like this."

LIRIT GREEN (12)

"I've been pretty careful. My grandma has been living with us and has a lot of health problems. My social interactions have been only outdoors. I love it. I like to go for walks with my friends and just sit in the driveway and chairs like ten feet apart. I think those are both good ways of maintaining during the pandemic."

LUKE GREGORY (12)

EVENT CHANGES:

"I couldn't get my license in June. The quarantine hit right around my birthday, so everything was closed already. When they finally opened, I had to wake up at 5:30 a.m. because we had to get there at 6:30 a.m. The line was insanely long. I was so anxious to get my license when I was waiting in line. We had to stand outside for three hours and then I had to wait inside for two hours and then I finally got it. It was such a relief. I was so happy and immediately went and drove around."

KATHERINE HUPE (11)

"My aunt was going to get married, and we were going to have a bunch of people from both sides of our families visit her in D.C. for the wedding. They moved the wedding to June 2021 because hopefully COVID will not be that big anymore. I was really sad that it had to get moved back because my aunt has always been my role model, and I was really excited for her to marry someone she loves. I was really excited to be a part of it, and I'm upset that she didn't get to have this really happy day for her as planned, but I'm glad they pushed it back and that she'll still have her day and I can be there for her too."

MARY-MARGARET NOTEMAN (09)

