

Hello everyone, I'm Tim Riker. I'm Chair of the Board at the Rhode Island Commission on the Deaf and Hard of Hearing. I wanted to inform you of some unfortunate news. Steve Florio, the Executive Director of the Commission, and whose responsibility it is to oversee the operations of the agency, was diagnosed with cancer last Thursday. This will require Steve to take a temporary leave of absence from work as he seeks medical treatment in his fight against Acute Myeloid Leukemia. The treatment process will require attention over the next several months in order to achieve full recovery.

At this time, we encourage the community to do what they can to support both Steve and his family in their fight toward recovery. There are three options in which you can show your support:

1. There is a Facebook page that has been created where supporters can find out more information and receive updates about Steve's progress. Individuals can post messages of support and encouragement to inspire both Steve and his family in their journey toward recovery.
2. There is a website called mealtrain.com, where supporters can make monetary donations or offer to provide meals to Steve's family. This will allow family to devote more time and attention in supporting Steve through his medical treatment.
3. Cards, letters, or mementos of support can be sent to Pamela Zellner at the Rhode Island Commission on the Deaf and Hard of Hearing. Pam will ensure that they are delivered to Steve's family.

In the upcoming months, RICDHH will experience some significant challenges and will not be operating in the same way as it has in the past. This will require understanding and support from the community. During this time, Pamela Zellner will be taking over the responsibilities for the daily operations of the office to ensure a smooth transition.

Thank you all. We hope that you will encourage and support Steve in his journey toward a full recovery.

Meal Train: <https://www.mealtrain.com/trains/5n4o6r>

Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/SteveStrong-kicking-cancers-ass-1837318319925047/>