



JB Pritzker, Governor

Illinois Department of Human Services

Grace B. Hou, Secretary

100 South Grand Avenue, East • Springfield, Illinois 62762
401 South Clinton Street • Chicago, Illinois 60607

October 6, 2020

Dear Guardian/Family Member:

We are pleased to update you on new developments at DHS State Operated Developmental Centers (SODC) regarding COVID-19 practices. We continually examine our policies and procedures and adopt the latest federal and state guidelines to ensure resident safety. At the same time, we are working to make it possible for our residents to enjoy the activities they value and are accustomed to.

Visitation:

We have received guidance from the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) regarding "Phased Reopening." IDPH has approved a flexible reopening plan that will allow for enhanced visitation options for families. The plan designates Phases for various center activities. You can learn more about visitation options at each site by contacting your Center visitor coordinator.

Testing:

To allow for phased reopening and additional visitation privileges, DHS is planning an enhanced COVID-19 testing plan at all sites. This plan will include regular, system wide COVID-19 testing for all employees, including contractual employees as well as universal screening in response to COVID outbreaks. In addition, we will be conducting a baseline COVID-19 test with all with residents not previously tested. If this impacts your family member, the Center will contact you. More details of this enhanced testing strategy will follow in the coming weeks.

Illinois Regional Mitigation:

IDPH has designated eleven geographical regions for monitoring and mitigating resurgence of COVID-19. Please be advised that any Center that exceeds the COVID-19 Regional Metrics could be placed on mitigation, pursuant to IDPH. As of the date of this letter, Murray Center in Region 4, has been placed on mitigation, per IDPH, due to a community resurgence. Current mitigation measures allow only outdoor visitation.

For further information on visitation options and testing procedures please contact your Center Director (contact information below). You can also find additional information attached:

- 1) Guidance: Outdoor/indoor visitation
- 2) Guidance: Home visitation
- 3) Guidance: Outside food

Please note, we advise you to call prior to coming to the Center to understand the visitation limitations at your Center. Below is a list of the designated visitor coordinator at each Center:

Shapiro:		
Kaitlin Kenny-primary contact	815-939-8646	Kaitlin.Kenny@illinois.gov
Tasha Harwell-back-up	815-939-8646	Tasha.Harwell@illinois.gov
Brandi Muliday-back-up	815-939-8377	Brandi.Mullady@illinois.gov
Ludeman:		
Sandra Vanoskey-primary contact	708-283-3893	Sandra.Vanoskey@illinois.gov
Cozette Gillespie-Pipkins- back-up	708-283-3395	Cozette.Gillespie- Pipkins@Illinois.gov
Mabley:		
Annette Miller-primary contact	815-288-8395	Annette.miller@illinois.gov
Ahneke Thompson- back-up	815-288-8331	Ahneke.Thompson@illinois.gov
Fox:		
Charity McDonald-primary contact	815-584-3347 ext. 227	charity.mcdonald@illinois.gov
Kathryn Posey back-up	815-584-3347 ext. 222	Kathryn.posey2@illinois.gov
Murray:		
Heather Goins-primary contact	618-532-1811Ext 4829	Heather.Goins@illinois.gov
Holly Shipley- back-up	618-532-1811 Ext 0	Holly.Shipley@illinois.gov
Choate:		
Kimberly Brooks-primary contact	618-202-6478	Kimberly.M.Brooks@illinois.gov
Tammy Johnson- back-up	618-202-6265	Tammy.L.Johnson2@illinois.gov
Kiley:		
Adell Crump-primary contact	847-249-0600 ext. 383	Adell.Crump@Illinois.gov
Aquanda Brown -back-up	847-249-0600 ext. 83	Aquanda.Brown@Illinois.gov

If you have any questions regarding this, please feel free to contact the Center Directors. They can be reached as follows:

Shapiro: Lynne.gund@illinois.gov
 Ludeman: Tameka.L.Watson@illinois.gov
 Mabley: Kelly.Sullivan@illinois.gov
 Fox: Sybil.Nash@illinois.gov

Murray: Lori.Demijan@illinois.gov

Choate: Bryant.Davis@illinois.gov

Kiley: Kim.Kilpatrick@illinois.gov

Thank you for your consideration and understanding.

Sincerely,

Allison Stark, Director of Developmental Disabilities

Tiffany Bailey, Deputy Director, Center Operations

Tameka L. Watson, Ludeman Facility Director

Guidelines for outdoor and indoor on-campus visitation (Phase-1):

1. A limit of 2 adult visitors from the same household will be allowed at any one time.
2. Visiting will only occur on-campus, outdoors/indoors, as approved on a case by case basis. Visitation outdoors will be weather dependent.
3. Visitors will be screened by phone, 24 hours in advance, by Center staff, using the CDC approved symptom checklist. Any visitor that answers "yes" to any question will not be allowed to visit for 14 days.
4. Upon entering the Center all visitors will be screened with the CDC symptom checklist and have their temperature taken. Any visitor that answers "yes" to any question or has a temperature >100°F will be not be permitted on campus for a period of 14 days, unless the visitor can provide documentation by a health care provider that they are not infectious.
5. Any visitor displaying observable symptoms of COVID-19 like illness will not be permitted on campus.
6. Visitors must self-disclose any contact with a COVID19 positive person within the last 14 days and anyone who has had such contact will be prohibited from visiting.
7. In the event that a resident is ill, the visitation will be rescheduled.
8. All visitors must use hand sanitizer upon arrival at the Center and throughout the visit, as needed.
9. It is requested that all visitors self-disclose to the Center Director(s) if they become ill with COVID-19 like symptoms within 14 days after visiting the Center.
10. All visitors must wear approved masks throughout the entirety of the visit.
 - a. In the event the resident refuses to wear a mask, the visitor will be supplied a surgical mask. The visitor must wear **eye protection (face shield or eye goggles)**.
 - b. If the resident wears a face mask the visitor may wear a cloth mask/face covering **and will not be required to wear eye protection**.
11. There can be no direct physical contact during the visit. Visitors must remain 6 feet apart from the resident and staff.
12. The duration time of visits will be determined by the total number of visits scheduled each day.
13. A staff member will be present during visits. If the guidelines are not adhered to the visit will be rescheduled.
14. Visitors will not be allowed to use the Center bathrooms during the visit.
15. Visiting must be arranged a minimum of 24 hours in advance; weekend visits must be scheduled by 12pm on Friday.

Guidelines for home visitation (Phase-3):

1. A limit of 2 adult visitors will be allowed to pick up the resident. Upon entering the Center, the family will remain in their vehicle and their family member will be assisted to the vehicle by Center staff.
2. In the event that a resident is ill, visitation will be rescheduled.
3. Upon return to the Center, the family must call ahead to arrange a time and location or drop off.
4. Visitors will not be allowed access inside the buildings.
5. Home Visits must be arranged a minimum of 5 days in advance; 7 days if a holiday is involved. Visits will be scheduled in the order that calls have been received. The Center will limit the number of home visits in order to allow for appropriate isolation upon the resident's return.
6. Visitors will be screened by phone, 24 hours in advance, by center staff, using the CDC approved symptom checklist. Any visitor that answers "yes" to any question will need to reschedule the home visit for at least 14 days from the original approved date. Any visitor displaying observable symptoms of COVID-19 like illness will need to reschedule the home visit.
7. Visitors must self-disclose any contact with a COVID19 positive person within the last 14 days and anyone who has had such contact will be prohibited from visiting for at least 14 days from date of contact with the positive.
8. Families understand that when their family member returns, they will reside in isolation within the identified isolation home for 14 days and will be tested following current infection control procedures.
9. The resident will not attend any large gathering including but not limited to weddings, shopping malls, indoor eating establishments, indoor church gatherings, parties/events.
10. Families will not have their family member in direct contact with someone that is positive for COVID19 or displaying symptoms of COVID19.
11. Families will encourage mask wearing, social distancing and frequent hand washing as appropriate for the situation.
12. Families will notify the Center Director immediately if the resident or anyone the resident has contact with is positive for COVID19 or is displaying symptoms

Guidelines for outside food brought to the centers:

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has stated that there is low risk for transmission of COVID 19 from food products. Therefore, the SODC's and SOPH have initiated a process whereby visitors may bring outside food into the facilities for consumption by residents/patients. Below are the guidelines that are to be followed for this to occur safely.

Food that is brought to facility to be consumed at a later time:

- Visitors should not bring in food if they, or anyone in their household, have had COVID infection or been exposed to someone with COVID in past 14 days, or if they currently have COVID like symptoms. Visitors should also ensure that their hands are washed and/or sanitized prior to the preparation of any food.
- Food provided by visitors must be for one resident/patient only and cannot be shared .
- All containers must be capable of storing food in a refrigerator or freezer and must be able to be disinfected prior to storage: i.e. use plastic instead of cardboard or paper.
- Food may be purchased commercially or homemade and should be single serving size.
- Food can be stored for a period of up to one week if frozen and 48 hours if refrigerated.
- Refrigerated or frozen food will be identified with the resident's name and the date and time received. Food stored in the refrigerator or freezer beyond the above time thresholds will be discarded.
- All food that requires heating will be heated sufficiently throughout (160 degrees) prior to serving. **STAFF MUST CHECK FOOD TEMPERATURE BEFORE SERVING.**

Food that is brought at the time of a visit to be eaten during the visit with visitors present:

- Visitors must complete the standard visitor check-in process and questionnaire.
- Visitors must notify staff at the beginning of the visit that they have brought food for the resident/patient. At that time, they will be issued a KN95 mask and a face shield as protection since the individual will be unmasked while eating or drinking.

- Food provided by visitors must be for one resident/patient only and cannot be shared.
- Whenever possible, the outside of containers will be wiped with disinfectant wipes prior to receipt by the resident.
- Food (commercial or homemade) should be single serving.
- All food/drinks opened during the visit will be consumed during the visit and any remainder discarded at the end of the visit.
- Residents should sanitize or wash their hands immediately after finishing eating

