

Update from the Nursing Department

Updates to Covid-19 Policies & Procedures:

Dear Guardians & Staff,

The Nursing Department is very happy to report that staff & Individuals attending day programming and residing in our residential homes have obtained a high rate of vaccination against Covid-19. With that in mind we are going to begin relaxing some of our covid-19 guidance, policies and procedures for **vaccinated** individuals and staff.

Facemasks:

1. Continue wearing your facemask when inside/on-site Price Center property. The recently relaxed CDC guidelines **do not** apply to congregate care settings.
 - a. Vaccinated Staff can remove their facemasks and not adhere to social distancing recommendations in break rooms during lunch/break.
 - b. Vaccinated Staff & Individuals can remove their facemasks during outdoor activities/programming.
 - c. Unvaccinated Staff & Individuals must continue to wear their face-masks at all times.

Social Distancing:

1. Vaccinated individuals can engage in small group activities/games on-site without social distancing.
2. Social distancing for vaccinated individuals has been decreased to 3ft from 6ft.
3. Social distancing guidelines are still in place for unvaccinated individuals & staff.

Covid-19 Testing:

1. Vaccinated staff are no longer required to complete bi-weekly/monthly testing
 - a. Now only required to test if symptomatic, or if a (+) breakthrough case has been reported in program.
2. Newly hired staff that are vaccinated do not need to be tested for covid-19 prior to starting employment on-site.
3. Unvaccinated staff will need to complete monthly covid-19 testing.

Exposure to Covid-19:

1. All post-exposure quarantine procedures and testing requirements are still in place for **unvaccinated staff & Individuals**.
2. Vaccinated staff & individuals will no longer be required to quarantine post exposure, or provide a negative covid-19 test, **unless** they develop symptoms of illness after exposure.

We very much appreciate your continued support and assistance. We will continue to closely monitor the rate of illness across the Commonwealth, and hope that all communication moving forward will bring positive updates to our policies and guidance recommendations as they relate to Covid-19. Should you have any questions or concerns regarding these updates please contact the nursing department at 617-244-0065 X5004.

Kind Regards,

Renata Ivnikskaya BSN, RN

Director of Nursing & Healthcare Services