



Community, Work & Independence, Inc.

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Dear Parents, Families, Advocates, Care Managers, and Residential Providers:

We hope this communication finds you well. Our Federal, State and Local Health Department COVID-19 guidance continues to change quicker than we can get the updates out. On Monday, December 27, CDC made the following changes to isolation of those who have tested positive and the quarantine period for those who were identified as exposures. It was up to each Local Health Department to decide if they were going to endorse this recommendation. As of this week, Warren, Washington and Saratoga Counties are implementing this recommendation as follows:

- People with COVID-19 should isolate for 5 days and if they are asymptomatic or their symptoms are resolving (without fever for 24 hours), follow that by 5 days of wearing a mask when around others to minimize the risk of infecting people they encounter. If symptoms are not resolving after 5 days isolation should continue to isolate through the 10th day. This change is motivated by science demonstrating that the majority of SARS-CoV-2 transmission occurs early in the course of illness, generally in the 1-2 days prior to onset of symptoms and the 2-3 days after.
- People who are exposed to a person with COVID-19 and are unvaccinated, or are more than six months out from their second mRNA dose (or more than 2 months after the J&J vaccine) and not yet boosted, CDC now recommends quarantine for 5 days followed by strict mask use for an additional 5 days. Alternatively, if a 5-day quarantine is not feasible, it is imperative that an exposed person wear a well-fitting mask at all times when around others for 10 days after exposure. Individuals who have received their booster shot do not need to quarantine following an exposure, but should wear a mask for 10 days after the exposure.
- For all those exposed, best practice would also include a test for SARS-CoV-2 at day 5 after exposure. If symptoms occur, individuals should immediately quarantine until a negative test confirms symptoms are not attributable to COVID-19.

We acknowledge that a number of people are not compliant with mask wearing for a number of reasons. As a means to minimize risk of exposure at CWI, we ask that people who are identified as not being compliant with mask wearing and have tested positive or been identified as an exposure, to please stay home for the duration of 10 days. This covers the 5 days of quarantine/isolation as well as the recommended 5 additional days post quarantine/isolation of mask wearing.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to Dan Juidiciani, Division Director Residential Services at 518 793-4700, ext. 12142, or Sally Hawley, Division Director Community & Employment Services, at 518 793-4700, ext. 12155. We appreciate your support during these challenging times.

Sincerely,
April Boucher
April Boucher

Director of Quality Assurance