

May 22, 2020

Dear People Serving People families,

We were notified earlier today that two families residing in our shelter facility have tested positive for COVID-19. We are actively communicating with both families in partnership with Hennepin County Public Health. We are not sharing their identity or room numbers to protect their privacy and ask you to also respect their privacy.

These are our first confirmed cases at this shelter since the start of the pandemic in mid-March. **People Serving People has been preparing for this moment and is prepared to continue to keep families healthy and safe and will work to prevent the virus from spreading further.** Things like meal delivery to rooms and frequent cleaning of highly touched surfaces are a part of this. You, too have a role to play in preventing the spread of Covid-19:

Symptoms of COVID-19 include fever, cough, tiredness, and difficulty breathing. If you are experiencing these symptoms or have questions, call the Healthcare for the Homeless clinic at 612.396.6157 (please call first) Mon & Wed 9am – 4pm; Tues & Thurs; Fri 9am – 12 noon. After hours: Healthcare for the Homeless 612.348.5553 7am – 10pm daily. Stay in your room if you are sick or think you may be sick.

Wear a Mask. Minneapolis Mayor Jacob Frey ordered mandatory mask wearing inside public places, including shelters like People Serving People. The mayor's order yesterday means masks are now mandatory when moving through common/shared spaces in the shelter, so if you're not already wearing your mask please begin doing so.

If you have not received a cloth mask and would like a mask please see the front desk. We will distribute them while supplies last. Wearing a mask is a way to take care of our neighbors, co-workers, family, and friends. A mask traps germs exhaled by the wearer. This is very important because many who have COVID-19 do not have symptoms, or may not start to experience symptoms until 2-14 days after exposure. Children under 2 should not wear masks.

Practice social distancing. That means keep a distance of 6 feet between you and others everywhere you go -- in the lobby, outside, while smoking, in hallways – everywhere.

- Don't go into each other's rooms
 - Don't share drinks, food, cigarettes or a cell phone
 - Check in with other families about their health and symptoms before babysitting
- You cannot and should not enter another family's room for any reason, unless there is a babysitting form on file at the Front Desk. Visiting other Guest's rooms is also a public health hazard that could increase the chance of catching COVID-19.

Health and Hygiene Practices

- Keep calm and keep washing your hands (for 20 seconds with soap)
- Sneeze or cough into your upper sleeve or elbow ; Throw out tissues after you use them and wash your hands
- Wipe down strollers, cell phones, and frequently touched surfaces regularly
- Take care of your mental and chemical health
- Breathe. Remember that you are resilient. We will get through this.

You can learn more about People Serving People's COVID-19 response, provide feedback, or ask questions at <https://www.peopleservingpeople.org/shelter-guests/> or connect with the Front Desk or an Advocate. We can all do our part to keep this community as healthy and safe as possible.

Sincerely,
People Serving People Leadership Team

My mask protects you



Your mask protects me

