

## Welcoming Place COVID Recommendations & Guidelines

*Hospitality establishments are places where the potential for a high degree of interaction among guests and workers exist. The lodging of guests, the services this entails (food and beverage, cleaning, activity organization, etc.) and the interactions specific to these facilities (guest-guest, guest-staff, and staff-staff) require specific attention. Mennonite Central Committee is committed to providing and maintaining accommodations and services that follow best practices to mitigate exposure and infection. Thus, all MCC guest services staff are personally committed to complying with basic protective measures against COVID-19 including hand hygiene, physical distancing, avoiding touching eyes, nose and mouth, cough and sneezing etiquette (respiratory hygiene), use of medical or fabric masks, stay-at-home orders when indicated and seeking medical attention when symptoms consistent with COVID-19 are present. While not required, vaccines are strongly encouraged among staff. Across the campus, enhanced cleaning and sanitization practices, increases in fresh air ventilation, and safe food preparation, handling and service practices further mitigate risks for our guests.*

**In addition, to these requirements for staff, MCC recommends the following for Welcoming Place guests:**

1. MCC encourages vaccinations for guests to the Welcoming Place, however, we also recognize that vaccination, like all health decisions are deeply personal topics. MCC will treat all guests with respect, regardless of their positions on vaccines or their vaccination status.
2. Individuals and groups are asked to consider local case counts, county positivity rates, county vaccination rates, and local hospitalization rates when evaluating risks and making decisions about individual and group stays at the Welcoming Place.
3. Groups may choose to ask their members to wear masks, even if not required by local public health guidelines. Masks and other prevention measures such as physical distancing, outdoor gatherings, good hygiene practices and care for others through testing, quarantine, isolation and notification to others, remain effective in reducing the risk of all variants of the disease. Masks, especially high-quality ones, are effective in reducing individual risk even if those around you are not masked. People at higher risk of serious disease from COVID-19 (or with people at higher risk in their homes) should take extra precautions beyond local public health recommendations.
4. Individuals and groups are reminded that they may be sharing space with other individuals or groups while on campus. Please be considerate of the needs and comfort levels of others when using common space and interacting.
5. If a guest develops symptoms consistent with COVID-19, efforts should be made immediately to minimize contact of the ill person with other guests and staff of the Welcoming Place. The person should be isolated in a room on a temporary basis until alternative lodging arrangements by the guest can be made. Welcoming Place Guest Services staff appreciate notification (PLEASE CONTACT 717.859.1151 Option 4) of the presence of Covid symptoms or a positive test result while a guest is on campus or within two days of visiting the Welcoming Place. This allows for contact tracing and the opportunity to mitigate impact among other guests and staff. Know that this information will be treated with confidence and not shared outside of the Guest Services Team.

**For questions or feedback contact Heather Lehman at [heatherlehman@mcc.org](mailto:heatherlehman@mcc.org).**