



Guidelines from Camp HOPE America

We can all take steps to help stop or slow the spread of infectious diseases, including COVID-19. Center for Disease Control (CDC) best practices in this situation include:

- If you are able to find creative ways to build community at events while minimizing the risk of exposure to illness, consider implementing and sharing your ideas! Monitor and plan for (and around) absenteeism.
- Develop information-sharing plans and systems with caregivers, campers, partners, etc. Consider the following questions:
 - *How will you notify relevant parties?*
 - *Who will communicate with whom?*
 - *How will you remain informed and on the same page?*
- Communicate the importance of staying home when showing symptoms of contagious illness to all participants, staff, and families.
- Establish and implement procedures for participants and staff who arrive at camp or year-round events with symptoms.
- At year-round events and camp, sanitize surfaces routinely, share fact-based, updated resources with your campers and families, and encourage all participants to practice routine personal protection behaviors, like handwashing, or covering their cough with their elbow.
- Provide participants with COVID-19 prevention supplies (e.g., soap, sanitizer, disinfectant spray, etc.) at your events or at camp.
- Identify and address potential language, cultural, and disability barriers associated with communicating COVID-19 information to staff and participants.
- Plan for staff absences in the case of illness - consider overstaffing or having an alternate roster when staffing events and your week of camp.
- Consult with year-round event partners, your Partner Camp, transportation partners, etc. any pertinent updates, changes to plans, questions or requests you have regarding policies or procedures.
- Recognize and validate the added stress and anxiety that this pandemic may cause in many people's lives, while continuing to provide a hope-centered perspective to those in the Camp HOPE America community.

Our mission is to provide hope and healing to children exposed to trauma.

We must not lose sight of that in the midst of a time of global pandemic and anxiety.

Center for Disease Control (CDC) Update: March 15, 2020

"The CDC, in accordance with its guidance for large events and mass gatherings, recommends that for the next 8 weeks, organizers (whether groups or individuals) cancel or postpone in-person events that consist of 50 people or more throughout the United States. Events of any size should only be continued if they can be carried out with adherence to guidelines for protecting vulnerable populations, hand hygiene, and social distancing. When feasible, organizers could modify events to be virtual. This recommendation does not apply to the day to day operation of organizations such as schools, institutes of higher learning, or businesses. This recommendation is made in an attempt to reduce introduction of the virus into new communities and to slow the spread of infection in communities already affected by the virus. This recommendation is not intended to supersede the advice of local public health officials."

Communicable Disease Control Practice Guidelines

- <https://www.cdc.gov/infectioncontrol/basics/standard-precautions.html>
- <https://emergency.cdc.gov>

Communicable Disease Prevention Strategies for Camps and Community Organizations

- <https://campnurse.org/2020/04/17/template-communicable-disease-plan/>
- <https://www.doh.wa.gov/Portals/1/Documents/1600/coronavirus/Factsheet%20-%20COVID-19%20Coronavirus%20Preparedness%20for%20Community%20Organizations.pdf>
- <https://www.ucsf.edu/news/2020/03/416906/why-experts-are-urging-social-distancing-combat-coronavirus-outbreak>

World Health Organization

- <https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/events-as-they-happen>

References

- <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/large-events/considerations-for-events-gatherings.html>
- <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/>