

Allendale Association

learn. grow. heal.



Founded in 1897, the Allendale Association is a private, not-for-profit organization dedicated to excellence and innovation in the care, treatment, education and advocacy for children and youth with serious emotional, mental and behavioral health challenges.

March 12th, 2020

To all of our valued foster parents:

As we all know, typical Influenza and Coronavirus (COVID-19) have been and continue to be a major concern this year. Although the COVID-19 is a common virus, it has become very popular in the media in recent weeks due to the number of outbreaks in several large countries. This letter is to serve as a reminder of basic safety to all of our foster parents. Also, attached to this letter is a fact sheet about COVID-19. Allendale has taken steps to protect the staff and clients by creating a prevention plan, which consists of basic hygiene education and simple steps to follow (e.g. wash your hands, do not touch your face).

First, as a general reminder, if your child is sick, never feel like you cannot reschedule a visit or in-person meeting. With the current concerns regarding COVID-19 and also for general flu season, we ask the following to prevent spread of illness:

- If you or members of your household have been out of the country recently, please make sure that the agency is aware, as you may have come in contact with someone who has COVID-19.
- If you or members of your household are displaying cold/flu-like symptoms with a fever, let your caseworker and licensing representative know so that a determination can be made if a visit is safe and appropriate.
- Just as with school, members of the household should be fever-free, without the aid of fever-reducing medication, for at least 24 hours before contact with other people.
- If you are to attend a training or in-person meeting at Allendale, we ask that you do not attend if there is illness.
- Your caseworker will start to contact you prior to visits to confirm visits and ensure that there is no illness in the home.

If you have any questions prior to our visit, please do not hesitate to call the agency or discuss with your caseworker and case management team.

Sincerely,

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ADMINISTRATION

Main: 847-356-2351

- President
- Development & Public Relations
- Finance
- Human Resources
- Quality Improvement
- Volunteer Services

SPECIALIZED EDUCATION SERVICES

Lake Villa: 847-356-3334

Woodstock: 815-206-5725

Benet Lake: 888-396-9660

North Chicago: 847-693-2060

- Special Education Programs
- Day Treatment Special Education
- ML's Place, Career & Technical Education Center
- Hidden Treasures Gift & Thrift Store
- Bernard B. Rinella Jr. Greenhouse & Mazza Gardens

RESIDENTIAL CARE & TREATMENT SERVICES

Main: 847-245-6207

Intake: 847-245-6327

- Lake Villa Campus
- Benet Lake, WI
- North Chicago, IL
- Samuel S. Becker & Walter Cherry Group Home Programs
- Aftercare Services

CLINICAL & COMMUNITY SERVICES

Bradley Counseling Center

Lake Villa: 847-356-3322

Gurnee: 847-244-7177

- Outpatient Counseling Services
- Family Services
- Specialized Foster Care
- Community Support Program
- Wraparound Services
- Proops Professional Development Training Center

ACCREDITATION

- The Council on Accreditation of Services for Families & Children, Inc.
- The Joint Commission
- The North Central Association Commission on Accreditation & School Improvement
- The American Psychological Association—Pre-Doctoral Internship Program

Allendale Association, an equal opportunity employer, values and supports diversity in its workplace.

Novel Coronavirus (2019-nCoV) and You



What is 2019 novel coronavirus?

The 2019 novel coronavirus (2019-nCoV) is a new virus that causes respiratory illness in people and can spread from person-to-person. This virus was first identified during an investigation into an outbreak in Wuhan, China.

Can people in the U.S. get 2019-nCoV?

The 2019-nCoV does seem to be able to spread from person-to-person although it's not clear how easily this happens. Limited person-to-person spread among close contacts has been detected with this virus in the United States. At this time, this virus is not spreading in communities in the U.S., so the likelihood of someone in the U.S. getting sick with this virus is very low. Right now, the greatest risk of infection is for people in China or people who have traveled to China. CDC continues to closely monitor the situation.

Have there been cases of 2019-nCoV in the U.S.?

Yes. The first infection with 2019-nCoV in the United States was reported on January 21, 2020. The current count of cases of infection with 2019-nCoV in the United States is available on CDC's webpage: www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/cases-in-us.html

How does 2019-nCoV spread?

This virus probably originally emerged from an animal source but now seems to be spreading from person-to-person. It's important to note that person-to-person spread can happen on a continuum. Some viruses are highly contagious (like measles), while other viruses are less so. At this time, it's unclear how easily or sustainably this virus is spreading between people. Learn what is known about the spread of newly emerged coronaviruses at www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/about/transmission.html.

What are the symptoms of 2019-nCoV?

Patients with 2019-nCoV have reportedly had mild to severe respiratory illness with symptoms of:

- fever
- cough
- shortness of breath

What are severe complications from this virus?

Many patients have pneumonia in both lungs.

How can I help protect myself?

This virus is not spreading in the United States right now, but the best way to prevent infection is to avoid being exposed to this virus.

There are simple everyday preventive actions to help prevent the spread of respiratory viruses. These include:

- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. Use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol if soap and water are not available.

If you are sick, to keep from spreading respiratory illness to others, you should:

- Stay home when you are sick.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.

What should I do if I recently traveled to China and got sick?

If you were in China within the past 14 days and feel sick with fever, cough, or difficulty breathing, you should get medical care. Call the office of your health care provider before you go and tell them about your travel and your symptoms. They will give you instructions on how to get care without exposing other people to your illness. While sick, avoid contact with people, don't go out and delay any travel to reduce the possibility of spreading illness to others.

Is there a vaccine?

There is currently no vaccine to protect against 2019-nCoV. The best way to prevent infection is to avoid being exposed to this virus.

Is there a treatment?

There is no specific antiviral treatment for 2019-nCoV. People with 2019-nCoV can seek medical care to help relieve symptoms.