

Covid Safety Guidelines

First, ABCCM requires all incoming guests and volunteers to wear masks, be temperature checked, and social distance inside the building. We also have disposable gloves, face shields and smocks for those want more coverage. At our Crisis Ministries and Clinic, all clients/patients are seen outside the building. We use telehealth, or phone communications in most communications over complex and long-term solutions that take time. Staff also wear masks and gloves in all interactions and more protection if there is closer, or longer term interaction with volunteers or clients.

Second, at the Veterans Restoration Quarters and Steadfast House, all cook teams come in a separate entrance, have temp checks, masks, face shields, gloves and aprons for the preparation and serving of food with social distancing. ABCCM has added additional Plexiglas shields in high traffic areas so the serving line, the guest registration counter and classrooms for teaching all have additional protection for volunteers.

Third, at all facilities, ABCCM has consistent cleaning and sanitizing procedures so that every surface - from door knobs, light switches, and pens are wiped down regularly. We involve staff and volunteers in these cleaning procedures.

Fourth, we do allow staff and volunteers who are working in an office that is not around others to come in with mask and protocols in place, but be unmasked if working alone (for example: doing data entry, or in a counselor's office on the phone). Everyone who comes out into the common areas must put on their mask. Rooms are then sanitized between shifts, or are closed off for 24 hours and then sanitized the second day.

Fifth, volunteer sign in procedures have also changed. In many cases, the staff sign everyone into the database, or volunteers still can pre-register to sign in. If volunteers use a kiosk to sign in, they provided gloves and/or sanitary wipes so the keyboard and screen is kept clean. Even though the science says that picking up the virus from surfaces is rare, we continue to follow stringent cleaning routines.

Sixth, we have created separate entrances for volunteers so as to avoid passing though common areas and direct participant contact. ABCCM has thought about the best ways to maintain social distancing within facility spaces.

Seventh, ABCCM is also in the process of upgrading its disinfecting equipment to add commercial grade units for swift and effective sanitizing of large room areas, classrooms and common areas.

This has been very effective resulting in no staff person, no volunteer, and no resident testing positive from exposure at ABCCM for all 7 months. We thank God for watching over these Ministries, but we also diligently use safety measures. Each Ministry may have some small variations for their functions, but carefully follow these procedures.

We hope this helps everyone understand how diligent ABCCM is about creating a safe place for volunteers to return and serve with confidence and effectively bring hope and joy to our neighbors.