

To: All UMRC & PH Team Members, Residents, Families, Visitors and Vendors
From: Steve Fetyko, President and CEO
Date: August 9, 2021
Subject: Mask Use & Remote Work at UMRC & Porter Hills

This memo serves as an update to UMRCPH mask guidance and supersedes the guidance sent out last week, August 3, 2021. Also included is updated Remote Work guidance.

This “fourth-wave” has continued to show steady increases in the number of Covid-19 cases in Michigan and across the country. Cases across the US are up by nearly 70% and Michigan cases have increased from an average of 200 daily cases, to 750 daily cases, to now over 1300 new daily cases, in less than 2-weeks’ time. While vaccinated individuals may still contract Covid, most experience mild to no symptoms. Getting vaccinated to prevent illness and death from Covid-19, and reduce spread of the virus, is highly recommended. Please contact your manager or infection control if you would like information on how to get vaccinated.

As you may know, the CDC updated their mask guidance and recommends that everyone, regardless of vaccination status, wear masks indoors/in public spaces where there is substantial or high transmission rates. UMRC-Porter Hills service areas moved from moderate to substantial over the weekend (Scale= Low/Moderate/Substantial/High). **Based on this information and the current CDC guidance, UMRCPH will be implementing the following changes to our mask guidance.**

Effective August 10, 2021:

- **All** team members, residents, vendors, volunteers, and visitors **must wear a mask** in all common areas of our communities, regardless of vaccination status.

NOTE: A resident’s room/apartment is considered their private home and not considered a common space within our communities.

- Visitors must wear a mask into community
 - In Care Areas- if visitor and resident both vaccinated, they can remove mask inside room
 - IL residents encouraged to have unvaccinated visitors wear masks while visiting in homes
- Please continue to follow recommended practices for preventing the spread of infection, including frequent handwashing, physical distancing, staying home when ill, and monitoring for signs and symptoms of Covid-19. **If you have any signs and symptoms or have been exposed to someone positive, please report it so you can be tested, regardless of vaccination status.**

Remote Work Update:

We continue to encourage and support the approach that if we can accomplish work remotely, we should do so unless it is necessary for you to be in-person to complete a duty or task. Given the current wide-spread increase in Covid-19 cases, we will continue this practice until at least October 1, 2021, and then reassess. Please continue to adhere to the following practices if you do report for onsite work:

- Wear facemasks in conjunction with current guidelines
- Screen daily for S&S of Covid
- Report any S&S or known exposure to Covid to IC and receive testing
- Remove masks only to eat/drink and maintain physical distancing from others when doing so
- Continue frequent handwashing and proper wearing of PPE, as indicated for your role.
- Meetings should be held virtually, whenever possible. A high-risk exposure is defined as being around someone who tested positive for Covid for more than 15 minutes in a 24hr period. In-person meetings increase the chance of multiple team members being exposed in the event someone present at the meeting later tests positive.

We will continue to closely monitor the most recent guidance and recommendations from MDHHS, CMS and the CDC and adjust our policies and practices, accordingly.