



HG COVID Programming Guidelines

Current as of September 13, 2021

For **ALL** Higher Ground Stakeholders:

Our guidelines have been developed to take reasonable steps to lessen the risk of communicable diseases, including but not limited to COVID-19. This is a baseline for our guidelines; more specific guidelines will be developed for each individual program.

We are monitoring recommended guidelines stated by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and we are adhering to state and local government guidelines for our three staff member locations (Idaho, California, and New York) as well as guidelines for all scheduled program locations.

Should outside organizations or vendors that Higher Ground has entered into an agreement with have guidelines or restrictions in place that exceed our guidelines, Higher Ground staff, participants, and volunteers will be required to adhere to vendor guidelines or restrictions for the duration of the collaboration.

When feasible, potential program participants will be sent a copy of these guidelines as well as a copy of the Move United Waiver & Release of Liability Agreement ahead of the program. Participants will be required to sign off on both documents prior to program participation. Refusal to comply with the following guidelines or acceptance of the waiver and release of liability agreement will result in non-acceptance to a program.

Potential participants will be sent a copy ahead of the program and be required to sign off on our expectations. Refusal to comply with the following guidelines will result in being asked to leave the program.

These guidelines are subject to change at any time.

PRE Camp/Program

The following questions will be asked prior to attending HG programming and on an ongoing basis as necessary. Should the answer to any of the following questions be **yes**, participants will need to provide sufficient proof, as determined by program

directors and staff, that they are not infected with COVID-19 before attending or returning to HG programming. If sufficient proof cannot be obtained, participants will be prohibited from attending until all questions can be answered **no**.

- Are you currently experiencing any of the following?
 - Fever or chills
 - Cough
 - Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
 - Fatigue
 - Muscle or body aches
 - Headache
 - New loss of taste or smell
 - Sore throat
 - Congestion or runny nose
 - Nausea or vomiting
 - Diarrhea
- Have you been in contact or living with someone who has shown symptoms or tested positive for COVID-19 within the past 30 days?

DURING Camps/Programs

ALL HG Programs will operate within the following guidelines:

Higher Ground encourages social distancing through increased spacing, small groups, and limited mixing between groups, and staggered scheduling, arrival, and drop off, where applicable.

For any programming involving food and beverage:

- All participants will properly clean hands before eating. Hand washing is the preferred method; however, hand sanitization (with at least 60% alcohol) is sufficient when a hand washing station is not available.
- The sharing of food or beverage with individuals outside of family members residing within the same household is prohibited.
- It is recommended that single serve or pre-packaged meals be used as frequently as possible for programming that provides meals.
- For programming which requires the service of food, staff will be the only authorized individuals to serve and will be required to utilize face coverings and gloves. It is recommended that food be covered when not actively being served.

- All meals are encouraged to take place in outdoor environments or in areas of sufficient space to allow for social distancing.
- Participants will be encouraged to bring a sufficient amount of full reusable water bottles labeled with their name for the programming duration.

For any program utilizing shared restrooms:

- Restrooms will be cleaned and disinfected daily or more often if possible, particularly high-touch surfaces such as faucets, toilets, doorknobs, and light switches. Ensure safe and correct application of disinfectants and keep products away from children.
- Ensure restrooms are regularly stocked with supplies for handwashing, including soap and materials for drying hands (preferably throw-away towels) or hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol.
- Where possible, place trash cans outside of restroom doors for disposal of throw-away hand towels in order to reduce contact with bathroom door handles.
- When feasible encourage participants and staff to utilize restrooms one at a time to avoid close contact with other individuals.

- **POST Camp/Program**

After the program, staff will do a follow-up health check with program participants at 7 days and 14 days. Email, phone and text will be the means of contact.

If a participant reports they are experiencing any COVID-19 related symptoms, HG staff will contact other program participants to report on the possibility of exposure. A person's positive test for COVID-19 is considered protected health information (PHI) under the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) and the American Disabilities Act (ADA). Higher Ground will work with the person who has tested positive to conduct proper contact tracing and will notify those who may have been exposed, however, by law we are not at liberty to disclose the person's identity.

Social Media – Pre/During/Post

Participation in group photos is at the discretion of the program participant, staff member, or volunteer.

Please refer to Page 4 for our Statement of Understanding of this Policy

I have read and understand **Higher Ground's COVID Programming Guidelines** and agree to support and adhere to these guidelines.

Name: _____

Date: _____

Signature: _____