



## **HG COVID Event Guidelines**

For **ALL** Higher Ground Stakeholders:

Our guidelines have been developed for the health and safety of all. This is a baseline for our guidelines; more specific guidelines will be developed for each individual program. This information is consistent with the health and safety recommendations and ongoing monitoring efforts stated by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), as well as the state and local government guidelines for our three chapters in Idaho, California and New York. These guidelines are subject to change at any time. Refusal to comply with the following guidelines will result in being asked to leave the program or event.

The following questions will be asked prior to entering the HG event. Should the answer to any of the following questions be **yes**, guests 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 the HG event. 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 Event**

- All activities in which participants cannot be separated by more than six feet and are located within an enclosed space, will require the utilization of a properly worn face covering.
  - A face covering is defined as a cloth, bandana, or other type of material that covers an individual's mouth and nose. The CDC lists five criteria for "cloth face coverings," which should:

- fit snugly but comfortably against the side of the face
  - be secured with ties or ear loops
  - include multiple layers of fabric
  - allow for breathing without restriction
  - be able to be laundered and machine-dried without damage or change to shape.
- Activities taking place in open environments and are suitable for social distancing measures, will not require the utilization of a face covering.
  - Any physical interaction with participants will require the use of a face covering and proper PPE utilization.
  - Encourage social distancing through increased spacing, small groups, and limited mixing between groups, and staggered scheduling, arrival, and drop off, where applicable.
  - 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. Both handwashing and sanitization stations will be posted with proper technique notification signs.
  - The sharing of food or beverage with individuals outside of family members residing within the same household is discouraged.
  - Staff and authorized volunteers will be the only 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.
  - Social distancing should be adhered to at all times throughout the evening.
  - If handshakes are incorporated into a presentation, staff and participants will be masked and will disinfect between handshakes.
  - HG likes to memorialize our programs with group photos, however, during this pandemic, everyone shall be masked in any group photos taken close together. People can be unmasked if using a panoramic photo where people can be appropriately socially distanced.

**For programming with outside organizations or vendors:**

- When collaborating with outside vendors and organizations, it will be required that all previously stated guidelines, where applicable, are met at a minimum.
- Should outside organizations or vendors have additional guidelines or restrictions in place, Higher Ground staff, participants, and volunteers will be required to adhere to said guidelines or restrictions for the duration of the collaboration.

**Social Media – Pre/During/Post**

Social media is powerful and as an organization we need to be careful that we're presented in a positive, supportive way that shows we comply with our own guidelines, as well as those set forth by our respective states and the CDC.

- Caption photos – identify family (pod) members, so there's no question it is alright for them to be close together
- Date all photos

