



## COVID PREVENTION & RESPONSE STRATEGY

We are so excited to see you this summer! We have been busy planning and preparing to welcome students and leaders to our events and we know you are doing the same. Though our world has changed, we remain committed to providing the same great CIY experience you have come to expect. However, you may be wondering what events will look like this year. The reality is, things will look a little different, and that is okay. What won't change are the foundational elements that make MIX a place where students are called to Christ and challenged to engage in a life of Kingdom Work.

This guide will help you prepare and answer questions your parents are likely asking and let you know what to expect when you arrive. Included below is an outline of responsibilities followed by a brief description of the strategies that will be used (as needed). Our goal with these guidelines is prevention and/or reduction of exposure to COVID-19 while at an event. This plan is subject to change as we receive updates and guidance from local authorities and our host venues. Where not specified in this packet, our policy is to follow CDC and/or state/local/location guidelines for COVID-19 safety.

### SECTION 1: ATTENDEE RESPONSIBILITIES

#### BEFORE THE EVENT:

- Attendees must complete items listed under Health Screening in Section 2 of this guide.
- Attendees should purchase and pack these items: hand sanitizer, face coverings (packing 2 masks per day is recommended) and wipes.
- It is recommended that Group Leader purchase these items: thermometer, hand sanitizer and wipes.

#### DURING THE EVENT:

##### ATTENDEE RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Notify Group Leader and do not participate in activities if any attendee has 2 or more of the following symptoms:
  - Fever (of 100.4 or greater) 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

- Masks will be required for all attendees and staff indoors where 6'+ of distance cannot be maintained (except while eating and in private spaces like personal rooms) and outdoors, if not socially distanced. CIY staff will not provide masks or face coverings but will have a limited supply available for purchase on site. \*If a host venue has a more stringent mask requirement, CIY will communicate this to the groups and attendees will be expected to adhere to the venue policy.
- Practice social distancing and limit touch and direct contact with other participants.
- Practice good hygiene throughout the event.
- Do not share food or drink.
- All attendees are expected to comply with all COVID-19 guidelines designed to reduce the spread of COVID-19 infection and promote the health and safety of those attending the event.

#### **GROUP LEADER RESPONSIBILITIES:**

- Train adult leaders attending the event with your group on the health and safety protocols outlined in this document.
- Do a temperature check each day and make sure your attendees are symptom free. Groups are required to provide their own thermometers.
- Make sure all your attendees are following health protocols, including hand washing, using hand sanitizer, social distancing and wearing a mask.
- If attendees develop 2 or more of the symptoms in the symptoms list, report to CIY staff immediately.
- **Take care of any quarantined attendees (meal delivery, parent communication, medical treatment and travel plans).**
- For health precautions, limit close-contact activities during extended rec time.
- Immediately report to CIY staff any COVID-19 positive attendees brought to your attention up to 48 hours after leaving the event. Contact [customercare@ciy.com](mailto:customercare@ciy.com) or call 417.781.2273 to complete a report.
- Any intentional, significant or repeated violations of COVID-19 guidelines, including requirements related to masks and social distancing will be addressed on an individual basis and may result in the person(s) or group being sent home.

#### **CIY STAFF RESPONSIBILITIES:**

- If we are made aware of an attendee who tests positive while at an event or after returning home, we will notify Group Leaders of the attendees we suspect were exposed. We will not share church names or individual names when making the notification.
- We will provide a room/place for quarantined attendees until plans to return home are made or as attendees wait to be picked up as soon as possible.
- CIY Staff is not responsible for the costs associated with COVID-19 testing, medical attention or other related costs.
- Staff will follow the same protocols and COVID-19 response for participants and will support your group in any way possible to adhere to the guidelines.

## SECTION 2: DESCRIPTION OF STRATEGIES

### PODS (COHORTS)

- Attendees will be organized into pods of no more than 15 by the church they attend with.
  - If a small group or church has 16 or more, they will be asked to split into multiple Pods.
- Pods should be comprised of the students and adult leaders in a single small group (d-group, etc.).
- Churches are encouraged, where possible, to create pods that are entirely male or entirely female.
- Pods will be housed together (if a pod has both males and females, they would be housed separately), eat together, be seated in main sessions together and participate in other activities together.
- The purpose of this approach is to limit the number of people that each attendee comes into close contact with for an extended period of time. By doing this, potential virus spread is reduced and the number of others who may need to quarantine if a particular attendee contracts COVID-19 is reduced.

### ARRIVALS & DEPARTURES

- To reduce crowding during arrival on campus, CIY will work with groups to stagger planned arrival times. Understanding that groups have varying travel plans and needs, CIY will work to identify times that work well for each group. Groups are asked to be flexible to the extent they can.
- Pods will have planned arrival times for main sessions in order to avoid large crowds gathering during pre-session times.
- Pods will be dismissed from main sessions in a sequence to reduce close contact between pods.

### CLEANING & SANITIZATION

- The host facility has instituted cleaning and sanitization procedures that meet or exceed local health department guidelines.
- Dining and meeting facilities including restrooms will be sanitized at least daily.
- Prior to attendee arrival, the host facility will clean and sanitize housing accommodations.
- Attendees should bring sanitizing wipes in order to wipe down knobs, switches and other common surfaces in their housing accommodations.

### HEALTH SCREENING

- Prior to arrival, attendees will be required to complete a survey regarding COVID-related symptoms, known exposure to coronavirus, and travel prior to the event.
- Attendees are asked to limit potential exposure to COVID-19 in the 2 weeks prior to the event by avoiding large crowds, wearing a mask when in close contact with others outside their home, and avoiding air travel prior to arriving at MIX.
- CIY encourages individuals who are eligible to be vaccinated against COVID-19 to consider doing so as a safe & effective way to reduce the likelihood of becoming infected and/or spreading the virus to others. However, unless required by the host venue or event location, CIY will NOT require proof of vaccination or a negative test in order to attend the event.

- Upon arrival and daily during the event, attendees will undergo a temperature check (performed by adults from their church) and be asked to report any COVID-related symptoms they begin to experience.

### ISOLATION & TESTING PLAN

- Specific locations will be designated where an attendee can be placed if they exhibit signs of COVID-19 during the event.
- Once isolated, in conjunction with local health officials, the individual will be tested when appropriate.
- If a person who is symptomatic opts not to be tested, they will be presumed positive.
- CIY & the host venue will work with the church to identify the best testing location.
- Once an individual tests positive, the church they are attending with (or their family) will be responsible for making appropriate arrangements to remove them from campus.
- Close contacts of any individual who exhibits symptoms will be quarantined pending test results for the symptomatic individual. If that individual is positive, those considered close contacts will be asked to leave the event. The church will be responsible for arranging and paying for transportation.
  - In keeping with CDC guidelines, fully vaccinated individuals will not be required to isolate or leave the event due to exposure unless they exhibit symptoms.
- Attendees or staff exhibiting any 2 (or more) of the symptoms listed on the **Symptoms of Concern** will be isolated and tested.
  - If the test is negative the individual will be monitored for 12-24 hours.
    - If symptoms persist the church the individual is attending with will be asked to arrange for the individual to be removed from campus.
    - If symptoms subside the individual will be allowed to rejoin their pod.

### PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT

- Attendees will be expected to wear masks during times indoors where 6'+ of distance from other people cannot be maintained. This includes main sessions, small group time, youth group time, meals (except while eating), and any elective sessions.
  - If a particular host venue has more stringent mask requirements, CIY will communicate and adhere to those requirements.
- Dining staff will wear appropriate PPE while preparing and serving meals.

### SOCIAL DISTANCING

- Meal times will be split into multiple shifts to allow additional space between attendees and at least 6' of distance between separate pods to be maintained.
- Main sessions will use modified seating arrangements. Seating will be done by pod and arranged to allow 6'+ of distance between pods.
- Programming for main sessions will be planned to minimize interaction between pods and contact with frequently touched surfaces.
- Housing arrangements will be by pods (males and females housed separately) while limiting contact with people from other pods.
- Attendees are encouraged to maintain appropriate distance from one another during small group, recreation and free time.
- Churches will be asked to conduct any full youth group meeting times outdoors maintaining appropriate space between pods.

## HYGIENE

- Attendees (Staff, Adult Leaders, Youth):
  - Will be encouraged to wash their hands frequently and avoid touching their eyes, nose, and mouth.
  - Will be encouraged to use hand sanitizer when hand washing is not an option.
  - Will be reminded to cover coughs & sneezes with the inside of their elbow.
  - Will be expected to report any potential COVID-related symptoms (fever or chills, cough, body aches, loss of taste or smell, etc.) to a group leader immediately.
  - Will be expected to practice good overall hygiene by showering daily and changing clothes as needed.

## CONTACT TRACING

- In keeping with recommended practices, in the event of a confirmed case of COVID-19, CIY will assist with contact tracing as requested by local health officials to identify those who were in close contact with the individual. In general, only the positive individual's pod will be considered close contacts unless there is indication that there was extended and/or unmasked close contact with others.
- **Close contacts with a confirmed case will need to leave campus (except those who are fully vaccinated according to CDC guidelines). The church the close contacts are attending with will be responsible for arranging travel home.**

## SYMPTOMS OF CONCERN

- Attendees or staff exhibiting **any 2 (or more) of the symptoms listed below** will be isolated and tested.
  - If the test is negative the individual will be monitored for 12-24 hours.
    - If symptoms persist the church the individual is attending with will be asked to arrange for the individual to be removed from campus.
    - If symptoms subside the individual will be allowed to rejoin their pod.
  - If the test is positive the church the individual is attending with will be asked to arrange for the individual and their close contacts to be removed from campus (separately to limit additional exposure for the close contacts).
  - **Symptoms:**
    - Fever (>100.4\*)
    - Headache
    - Body Aches
    - Chills
    - Cough
    - Loss of taste and/or smell
    - GI distress
    - Sore throat
    - Congestion
    - Fatigue

## SECTION 3: FAQS AND PRO TIPS

### **WILL PARTICIPANTS AND STAFF BE REQUIRED TO WEAR MASKS DURING CIY EVENTS?**

Yes. Masks will be required for all attendees and staff. Masks must be worn at all times while indoors (except while eating and in personal rooms) and outdoors if not socially distanced, unless required by additional local guidelines. CIY staff will not provide masks but will have them available for purchase on site.

### **WHAT ARE YOUR PROCEDURES FOR CIY STAFF?**

CIY Staff will follow the same guidelines asked of attendees and leaders. They will help with COVID-19 prevention efforts in all areas of the event and reinforce safety guidelines.

### **WHAT IF AN ATTENDEE OR A STAFF MEMBER IS SHOWING SYMPTOMS OF COVID-19 OR ANY OTHER ILLNESS?**

See the [Isolation & Testing Plan](#)

### **WHAT ADDITIONAL ITEMS SHOULD I ENCOURAGE THE GROUP TO PACK TO PROMOTE HEALTH AND SAFETY AT THE EVENT?**

Every attendee needs to bring multiple masks (we recommend bringing two for each day of the event) and hand sanitizer. Some may also choose to bring additional cleaning supplies (wipes, disinfectant spray) to wipe down their rooms during the week.

### **WILL COMMUNITY BATHROOMS BE UTILIZED?**

The use of community bathrooms depends on the event location. Where community bathrooms are in use, the venue will provide regular cleaning of shared communal areas but if you would like supplemental cleaning in these areas, you will want to bring your own cleaning supplies.

### **SHOULD I BRING EXTRA LEADERS THIS YEAR?**

While this is not a requirement, extra leaders may be helpful to you. Keep in mind that IF a student needs to get tested for COVID-19 and is positive, the adult leader who took them to get medical attention would be considered a close contact and must return home as well.

### **I WASN'T AROUND A COVID-POSITIVE PERSON, BUT I WAS AROUND SOMEONE WHO WAS A "CLOSE CONTACT" TO A POSITIVE CASE. SINCE I AM A SECONDARY EXPOSURE, DO I HAVE TO QUARANTINE TOO?**

Only participants who were in close contact (within 6 feet for more than 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period) with a confirmed COVID-19 positive individual will be required to quarantine, unless the individual has been fully vaccinated. In that case, the CDC does not require the individual to be quarantined.

### **IF AN ATTENDEE TESTS POSITIVE AND IS SENT HOME, WILL THE GROUP BE REFUNDED FOR THE COST OF THE ATTENDEE SPOT?**

If an attendee tests positive prior to arrival at the event the church will be refunded the full amount of registration less the initial \$65 deposit. If an attendee tests positive after arrival but before half of the event has concluded, they will receive a refund of 50 percent of the total cost. And if an attendee tests positive after more than half of the event has concluded, no refund will be offered.