

COVID-19 Checklist for Homeless Shelters

Top Things You Can Do to Protect Against COVID-19

Ohio Department of Health Director Amy Acton, M.D., MPH, strongly recommends that all homeless shelters immediately take the following actions: Retrain staff, residents, and volunteers on handwashing and cough etiquette. Ensure staff and volunteers wash hands before and after all interactions with residents. Make sure all restrooms are well stocked with soap and paper towels. Encourage ill staff to stay home. Do not designate staff and volunteers at high risk of COVID-19 as caregivers for sick clients staying in the shelter. Regularly monitor residents for symptoms of acute respiratory illness (fever, cough, or shortness of breath). Separate sick residents from the rest of the community. Do not keep residents with respiratory symptoms in the same area unless the cause of the illness is confirmed to be the same. Clients, staff, and volunteers should immediately inform management if they have respiratory symptoms, and contact their health care provider. Actively monitor reports of respiratory illness or reports of confirmed cases of COVID-19 in the facility and inform your local health department. Provide residents who are ill or have symptoms consistent with COVID-19 with information on what to do when they are sick. Develop plans for individuals who may enter isolation/quarantine to refill prescriptions or access daily medications (e.g., methadone.)

Increase the frequency of cleaning surfaces and other high-touch areas using <u>EPA-approved</u> cleaning agents. Frequently clean and disinfect high contact surfaces like

doorknobs, tables, furniture, shared bathrooms, countertops, and office supplies.



Avoid sharing household items among those who are sick. Do not have those who are sick share dishes, drinking glasses, cups, eating utensils, towels, bedding, or other items. After using these items, you should wash them thoroughly with soap and water.



Wash laundry and bedding. Wear disposable gloves while handling soiled items. Wash clothes and bedding that have body fluids on them, such as saliva or mucus. Wash your hands with soap and water immediately after removing your gloves. Wash and dry clothing and bedding with the warmest temperature recommended on the item's label.

For additional information, visit coronavirus.ohio.gov.

For answers to your COVID-19 questions, call 1-833-4ASKODH (1-833-427-5634).



STAY HOME WHEN YOU ARE SICK



AVOID CONTACT WITH PEOPLE WHO ARE SICK



GET ADEQUATE SLEEP AND EAT WELL-BALANCED MEALS



WASH HANDS OFTEN WITH WATER AND SOAP (20 SECONDS OR LONGER)



DRY HANDS WITH A CLEAN TOWEL OR AIR DRY YOUR HANDS



COVER YOUR MOUTH WITH A TISSUE OR SLEEVE WHEN COUGHING OR SNEEZING



AVOID TOUCHING YOUR EYES, NOSE, OR MOUTH WITH UNWASHED HANDS OR AFTER TOUCHING SURFACES



CLEAN AND DISINFECT "HIGH-TOUCH" SURFACES OFTEN



CALL BEFORE VISITING YOUR DOCTOR



PRACTICE GOOD HYGIENE HABITS