Maryland
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

AMENDED DIRECTIVE AND ORDER REGARDING YOUTH CAMP PROGRAMS

Pursuant to Executive Order 20-06-10-01

No. MDH 2020-06-12-02

I, Robert R. Neall, Secretary of Health, finding it necessary for the prevention and control of 2019 Novel Coronavirus ("SARS-CoV-2" or "2019-NCoV" or "COVID-19"), and for the protection of the health and safety of patients, staff, and other individuals in Maryland, hereby authorize and order the following actions regarding the operation of youth camp programs for the prevention and control of this infectious and contagious disease under the Governor's Declaration of Catastrophic Health Emergency. **This Amended Directive and Order replaces and supersedes the Directive and Order Regarding Youth Camp Programs, dated May 27, 2020.**

1. Limitations on Youth Camp Programs

A. Conditional Opening

Subject to the following conditions, all outdoor youth camps may open as of 5:00 p.m., May 29, 2020; all indoor youth camps may open as of 5:00 p.m., June 19, 2020. Residential and overnight camp programs are permitted as of 5:00 p.m., June 19, 2020.

i. Out of state campers are not permitted.

ii. No group of campers and staff may exceed 15 individuals at any time.

iii. Each youth camp program shall implement appropriate social distancing protocols as enumerated in 2.A of this Order.

iv. In addition to the requirements below, youth camps are expected to regularly check and implement the CDC's suggestions for youth and summer camps.

B. Daily Monitoring for COVID-19 Symptoms

i. Each youth camp program shall create a plan for monitoring the health of staff and the health of campers.

ii. Each youth camp program shall implement a process to screen all staff and campers daily for symptoms and possible exposure to COVID-19, using questions recommended by CDC. Staff or children who have tested positive for COVID-19, are symptomatic, or who have had a known exposure to a confirmed case of COVID-19 shall be excluded according to CDC guidance.

iii. The youth camp program shall keep a log of temperature and symptom screening for campers and maintain confidentiality of these records.

2. Youth Camp Operations

A. Social Distancing and Face Coverings

i. Each youth camp program shall create policies and implement procedures to ensure that staff and campers maintain 6 feet of physical distance whenever possible.

ii. Face coverings should be worn by staff and campers, as follows:

(a) Staff should wear face coverings when interacting with other staff, parents, and campers, unless it is not safe to do so, especially when social distancing is not possible.

(b) Campers age 9 and older should wear face coverings indoors if they can be worn safely and consistently.

v. Individuals from outside the camp are limited in their interactions with staff and campers, including parents during camper drop off/pick up.

vi. Staff should be alert for signs of heat injury and consider limiting use of facial coverings when outdoors on hot days.

B. Infection Control Strategies:

All youth camp programs shall implement the following prevention and mitigation strategies to slow and limit COVID-19 exposure and spread:

i. Social distancing;

ii. Hand hygiene;

iii. Cough and sneeze hygiene;

iv. Practice proper use, removal, and washing of cloth face coverings;

v. Provide policies and education on COVID-19 symptoms and response;

vi. Avoid use of items that are not easily cleaned and disinfected;

vii. Ensure adequate supplies of tissues, hand soap, alcohol-based hand sanitizer, EPA approved cleaning products for COVID-19 disinfection suited for the facility;

viii. Effective cleaning and disinfection of surfaces; and

ix. Clear signage and communications.

C. Campers and Staff

All youth camp programs shall implement the following:

i. The group size for youth camps shall be limited to 15 individuals.

ii. If a youth camp has one group, the group shall have at least 2 adults.

iii. If a youth camp has two or more groups:

(a) Each group shall have at least 1 adult.

(b) Campers or staff will not mix among groups.

iv. To the extent possible, arrival and departure times of campers shall be staggered to prevent crowding.

v. Keep each group separate from other groups using physical distance or by using shared areas at different times. (like separate meal times or separate bathroom times for each group)

vi. If different groups share areas (bathroom, lunch tables, craft room), clean high touch surfaces in the shared area between groups and keep a log of the cleaning date, time and individual who does the cleaning.

vii. Individuals with a higher risk for severe illness if they contract COVID-19 shall discuss the risks with their healthcare provider before attending or staffing the youth camp program. (see https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/need-extra-precautions/index.html).

viii. Staff should be alert for heat-related signs and symptoms and consider additional protective measures for hot and Code Red days.

D. Response and Management for COVID-19

i. Management of Staff Exposed to COVID-19:

(a) Staff who are exposed to COVID-19 may not work. They must be isolated until they complete quarantine following CDC guidance.

(b) Staff who develop suspected or laboratory confirmed COVID-19 may not return until they are cleared from isolation by a health care professional.

ii. Management of Campers Exposed to COVID-19: campers who are exposed to COVID-19, or who develop suspected or laboratory confirmed COVID-19, may not attend camp until cleared by a healthcare provider.

iii. Management of campers and staff in groups where a staff member or camper is found to have a confirmed or probable case of COVID-19:

(a) The members of the group shall quarantine following CDC guidelines.

(b) Individuals may not work at or attend until completing self-quarantine and obtaining clearance from the individual's primary care physician.

(c) Follow exposure control plans in the camp's health program.

(d) Communicate with the local health department and parents.

(e) Based on consultation with the local health department, the entire facility may be closed based on level of contact and potential exposure.

(f) Wait 24 hours, then complete extra cleaning/disinfection of the facility, all areas not just high touch surfaces, and wait at least 5 days to bring in the next group.

iv. If a staff member or a child develops symptoms of COVID-19 during camp, safely isolate the person and place a mask or face covering. Contact the youth camp's health supervisor and the parent/guardian and arrange for safe transportation to a healthcare facility or home.

E. Food Service Operations

All youth camp programs shall:

i. Not use shared items such as serving utensils or condiment containers;

ii. Eliminate self-service (buffet-style) food options; and

iii. Ensure physical distancing for campers waiting for food service.

F. Youth Camp Programming and Training

i. Field Trips and Camp Transportation

(a) All transportation provided by camps should follow social distancing guidelines for occupants and should prevent mixing of camp groups.

(b) Staff and campers shall use face coverings during transportation and when in public areas.

(c) Clean and disinfect vehicles after each use.

ii. Sports activities

(a) Groups may not exceed the limit of 15 participants, including staff. Groups should not mix.

(b) Physical distancing rules apply. No close physical contact during sports activities.

(c) Clean and disinfect equipment after each use.

iii. Staff Training: encourage as much staff training as possible by online means. For in person training, follow appropriate CDC and MDH guidelines regarding social distancing and COVID-19 prevention.

G. Residential Camps

All residential youth camps shall implement the following measures:

i. Each group of campers/staff stays with their sleeping group, do not mix campers or staff among groups for the duration of the session.

(a) Maximum capacity for each sleeping area is groups of 2 adults and 13 children.

(b) For bunk beds, if both upper and lower beds are occupied, sleep with the top bunk individual's head above the lower bunk individual's feet.

(c) Minimum of 6 feet between each occupied bunk or bed, provide maximum distance between each individual's head.

(d) Complete COVID-19 temperature and symptom screening for staff and campers every morning.

ii. Camps with a COVID-19 positive or probable case will send all campers/staff in the group to their homes or quarantine in place with

additional requirements based on consultation with the local health department.

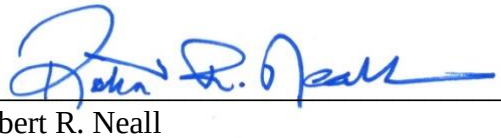
iii. Clean and disinfect high touch surfaces in the bathroom facilities and sleeping quarters a minimum of three times per day after each mealtime.

iv. Clean and disinfect high touch surfaces in a bathhouse shared between groups after each group's or individual's use.

3. **Severability**

If any provision of this Directive and Order or its application to any person, entity, or circumstance is held invalid by any court of competent jurisdiction, all other provisions or applications of this Directive and Order shall remain in effect to the extent possible without the invalid provision or application. To achieve this purpose, the provisions of this Directive and Order are severable.

THIS DIRECTIVE AND ORDER IS ISSUED UNDER MY HAND THIS 12TH DAY OF JUNE 2020 AND IS EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY.



Robert R. Neall
Secretary of Health