



## Elderhaus/Mindset Services Suspended Until January 12, 2021

November 16, 2020

The Board of Directors of Elderhaus voted unanimously on November 16, 2020, to temporarily suspend services at Elderhaus/Mindset. Services will resume on or after January 12, 2021, provided that it is legal, safe, and practical to reopen at that time.

The Board's decision centered on two primary considerations.

First, the current surge in cases of COVID-19 has substantially increased risks for all residents of Larimer and Weld Counties. This is particularly true for immuno-compromised individuals and other persons with significant risk factors.

Second, incidences of COVID-19 have already touched our Elderhaus/Mindset families in several ways.

In one instance, while doing routine precautionary screening in preparation for our limited reopening in October, a prospective direct care staff member tested positive for COVID-19. This staff member had not been in our Elderhaus facilities since shortly after our closure last March. Similarly, she had no contact with any other Elderhaus/Mindset staff members or participants. We are glad to report that she recovered and was cleared to start work several weeks later.

More recently, a participant at Elderhaus tested positive for COVID-19. The participant was last at Elderhaus/Mindset on Tuesday, Nov. 10. She began feeling ill Wednesday afternoon, Nov. 11, so her mother – thankfully – kept her home instead of bringing her in Thursday, Nov. 12.

Again, all precautions were in place while the participant was here – including maintaining social distance at all times, wearing masks except at meals, plus frequent cleaning and disinfecting. Accordingly, to the best of our knowledge, the only person who met the criteria for exposure (<https://www.larimer.org/covid-19-testing>: “at least 15 minutes within 6 feet of contact”) was her direct care staff person. Ironically, that person was the same individual who already had tested positive for COVID-19, and therefore was least likely to be at risk from the exposure. The participant's mother is awaiting test results, but is presumed positive and is quarantining with the participant. Our love and prayers are with them both.

We have received no other reports of illness among staff or any other participants.

This suspension of services until at least January 12 is based on our commitment to continue to act out of an abundance of caution by doing everything in our power to keep participants and their families, as well as our staff, as safe as is possible in the current situation.

We know that this is an extraordinarily stressful time, and appreciate the understanding of our participants and their families, as well as our staff, friends, and partners.

For the Elderhaus Board of Directors,

Dr. Tim McLemore  
Executive Director