

August 2, 2021

Dear Elderhaus/Mindset families,

As we continue to scale-up services following our extended closure due to the COVID-19 pandemic, safety remains our most important concern. Unfortunately, Larimer County has been designated as an area with substantial risk of coronavirus transmission, and news reports indicate that Larimer County's COVID-19 infection rate has tripled in recent days as the Delta variant proves to be even more highly contagious than expected.

While many of our participants are unable to tolerate masks all day long, there are several safety measures that Elderhaus is implementing immediately to better protect our participants, their family members, and our staff. These measures will continue until the current level of risk subsides.

- All Elderhaus staff members are required to wear masks when interacting with participants. Our current vaccination rate among direct care staff is 100%, and including all staff who are in the building when participants are present, our vaccination rate is 93.3%. (Any unvaccinated staff members already had been required to mask when interacting with participants, a requirement that now applies to vaccinated staff as well.)
- Elderhaus staff who display new or unexplained symptoms consistent with COVID-19 are required to get negative results from a COVID-19 test, or a doctor's note indicating their condition is not contagious, before returning to work.
- Out of about 56 current participants, we are aware of three who are not vaccinated for various reasons, including medical exemptions. This means our vaccination rate among participants is approximately 95%. Unvaccinated participants will have to mask or socially distance from other participants until CDC guidance on mask wearing is relaxed. Vaccinated participants are welcome to mask or socially distance if they prefer; please advise us if you wish for us to assist with keeping your vaccinated participant masked or socially distanced.
- When we resume limited transportation services (hopefully on Monday, August 16, but this is subject to change), no unvaccinated individuals will be eligible for transport.
- We will not accept applications for services from individuals who are unvaccinated.
- Unvaccinated guests may only enter the building if they are masked and must remain socially distanced from participants even when masked.
- We will not accept volunteers for indoor activities when participants are present, without proof of vaccination.
- In addition to the numerous safety protocols we have observed for many years, we will continue to maintain the following COVID-19 related safety protocols that were implemented when we reopened:
- o Temperature checks and sanitizing of hands are required of all persons entering the interior areas of our building, and the names of every person utilizing our facilities are recorded each day.
 - Medical grade HEPA air filters are active in participant group areas.

Please remember: Participants who have had a fever (temperature above 99.9 degrees) may not return to Elderhaus until at least 24 hours after the fever has resolved without any fever-reducing

medications (such as Tylenol, aspirin, etc.). Similarly, individuals taking antibiotics for a potentially contagious condition may not return to Elderhaus/Mindset sooner than 24 hours after the start of their prescription. We may ask participants who display new or unexplained symptoms consistent with COVID-19 to get negative results from a COVID-19 test, or a doctor's note indicating their condition is not contagious, before returning to Elderhaus/Mindset.

PLEASE do not bring your loved one to Elderhaus/Mindset if you, the participant, or anyone in your household, has any new or unexplained symptoms consistent with COVID-19, or if they have even a remote possibility of being sick with any contagious condition!

We join with countless medical facilities and regulatory agencies in urging every eligible individual to get vaccinated for COVID-19. Even individuals who perceive their own level of risk of infection to be relatively low can be a danger to the many immuno-compromised individuals we love and serve.

Finally, we ask that you be patient, gentle, and understanding with others during these challenging times, even – or perhaps especially – with those who hold opinions different from your own. None of us fully knows the burdens that others carry, and all of us rely on the kindness of others at different points in our life.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have questions, concerns, compliments, or suggestions. We will continue to take CDC recommendations seriously. While the current pandemic-related conditions make it impossible to guarantee that any staff member, participant, or guest will not contract an illness, Elderhaus will continue to take reasonable precautions. With your help, we can remain open to provide capable and compassionate care for our participants as well as vital respite for their caregivers.

Sincerely,

Tim McLemore Executive Director