

4/2/20

# Children's Village

COVID-19 updates for Children's Village families

As COVID-19 (coronavirus) continues to spread within our community and Washington State, we want to take every precaution to keep the most vulnerable members of our community safe, and reduce the risk of exposure for children, families and staff. As of today, 3/13/20, Children's Village has the following in place (newer updates are in red):

- Prior to your child's appointment you may receive a call from a Children's Village staff member, inquiring if you, your child, or a member of your family are sick. You will also be asked these questions when you arrive for the appointment. **If you, your child or a family member are sick, please cancel/reschedule your appointment and stay home.**
- All Parent to Parent meetings and events are cancelled or postponed for 30 days (as of 3/12/20). Some meetings may be available virtually- contact Parent to Parent for more information.
- The supervised playroom is closed for at least 2 weeks.
- Community groups meeting at Children's Village have been cancelled for the next 30 days (as of 3/12/20).
- Children's Village staff are not visiting community child care centers for 30 days (as of 3/12/20).
- Families will be screened for health concerns at the front door prior to their child's appointment (as of 3/16/20).
- We are limiting one visitor to accompany patient to clinic visits (as of 3/16/20).
- For urgent dental needs for your child, please contact the Children's Village Dental Clinic at 574-3220. Do not take your child to the Emergency Department for dental concerns before speaking with a dentist (as of 3/17/20).
- All home visits (Early Intervention, Bat and ABA, Nurse Family Partnership) have been cancelled. An exception to this includes some medically necessary home visits for families enrolled in the Nurse Family Partnership Program (as of 3/17/20).
- All Early Intervention Evaluations scheduled onsite at Children's Village are cancelled; children will be rescheduled into a virtual evaluation (as of 3/18/20).
- Parent to Parent is offering weekly virtual support sessions. Contact Parent to Parent for more information- 509-574-3200 (as of 3/18/20).
- On-site appointments available only for children with urgent health care needs (as of 3/18/20).
- We are moving many visits to telemedicine (virtual health) to be able to still provide services to those we would normally see in their homes and for those who do not need to come to the Village for services (as of 3/18/20).
- Yesterday, 3/18/20, we learned that a Children's Village staff member tested positive for COVID-19. Any patient or staff member who had contact with this person has been notified. This staff member had very little patient contact during that time, but again, they have been notified by the Department of Health. It is important that everyone practice the guidelines of social distancing, and monitor for symptoms of shortness of breath, cough or fever.
- All non-urgent appointments at Children's Village have been cancelled for the next 2 weeks (as of 3/19/20). These appointments may be offered through phone calls or tele-health appointments.
- All non-urgent dental appointments at Children's Village have been cancelled until May 18 (as of 3/20/20).
- On Saturday, March 21, Virginia Mason Memorial took a courageous step to protect the health and safety of our community. During a noon-time press conference, a strong statement was made encouraging community members to stay home for **14 days**. In an effort to protect our families, friends, neighbors and health care workers, all Yakima County residents are urged to **STAY HOME**. Do not go out unless you have an urgent

need. This is how we'll slow the spread of COVID-19. **Take a stand now, and encourage your family and friends to do the same! (as of 3/21/20).**

- Although Children's Village is closed for most appointments, we do have staff who are answering the phones. If you have a questions or need assistance, please call- 509-574-3200 (as of 3/21/20).
- All Yakima County residents are currently under a 'Shelter at Home' order as of 3/22/20. Please stay home and stay safe.
- All appointments at Children's Village are currently cancelled, postponed or being scheduled as a telephone or telehealth appointment. The one exception to this is urgent cardiology appointments (as of 3/23/20).
- Children's Village will remain closed for most appointments until further notice. Urgent appointments including cardiology, some dental visits and feeding evaluations will be scheduled. Many appointments are now occurring by phone or virtual health. If you have questions or need information about your child's appointment, please call Children's Village at (509)574-3200- staff are available to answer your call (as of 4/1/20).
- Passion for the Village, an annual fundraiser for Children's Village, has been rescheduled for July 31<sup>st</sup> (as of 4/1/20).

**For more information about COVID-19, please visit:**

Washington State Department of Health: <https://www.doh.wa.gov/Emergencies/Coronavirus>

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/index.html>

Talking with Children about Infectious Diseases: <https://store.samhsa.gov/product/Talking-With-Children-Tips-for-Caregivers-Parents-and-Teachers-During-Infectious-Disease-Outbreaks/PEP20-01-01-006>

<https://selfadvocacyinfo.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/Plain-Language-Information-on-Coronavirus.pdf>