

We are all aware the states we serve are beginning to reopen, resulting in people slowing or stopping self-quarantine. We must continue reminding ourselves, as we return to our communities, that we still carry a risk of potential infection. Our priority is for the safety and health of you, your family, our colleagues and the people we serve. Returning to daily activities in the community is a decision that brings heighten risk of becoming infected.

With the continued health and safety of everyone in mind, we want to take this opportunity to remind you of the required procedures VOA has implemented. These same practices are to be used when you decide to participate in any community activities.

Continue to practice good hygiene:

1. Wash your hands with soap and water for a minimum of 20 seconds or use hand sanitizer.
2. Avoid touching your face.
3. Sneeze or cough into a tissue or the inside of your elbow.
4. Disinfect frequently used items and surfaces as much as possible.
5. Use a mask in a residential setting, when in public OR when social distancing (staying six feet apart) is not possible.

If you are feeling ill, stay at home. All staff are required to take their temperatures prior to reporting to work. If it reads 100.4 or higher, staff must stay home. The same applies to those in residential services. Their temperature will be checked at the beginning of their shift and if it reads 100.4 or higher they will be sent home.

These additional protocols are also in place:

Local travel is permitted for work purposes only. All other travel (personal and business) must be approved by your supervisor.

Face-to-face groups of ten or fewer must meet social distancing guidelines.

And please limit one person in common areas such as the copier and breakrooms.

Emphasizing a conscious effort to implement these procedures will ensure the safety of our VOA community. Thank you all for your hard work and patience as we continue to fight COVID-19 together.