

**TO:** SYSC & Juvenile Justice Staff

**FROM:** DCYF Director Joseph Ribsam

**DATE:** 6/18/20

**RE:** COVID-19 Emergency Directive - SYSC Visitation – Phase 1 Visitation Protocols

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This directive is intended to supplement and, where contradictory, supersede the directive of March 20, 2020 suspending visitation activities for youth at SYSC.

The purpose of this directive is establish Phase 1 Visitation Protocols for parents and guardians visiting youth at SYSC. Visitation between parents/guardians and youth will be permitted subject to compliance with the limitations set forth herein to ensure the safety of youth and staff at SYSC, as well as the visitors. In-person contact shall be permitted to provide medical, dental, and other personal care, which cannot be accomplished remotely. Future phases of these protocols will consider professional and sibling/broader family visitation. Video visitation with parent, guardian, siblings, broader family, and professional contacts shall continue to be supported for all youth at SYSC.

### **Parent/Guardian Visitation**

All youth, parents, and guardians will have to agree to abide by the safety protocols in advance of the in-person visit. If a parent, guardian, or youth is unwilling or unable to abide by the safety protocols, the in-person visit shall not occur and video or telephonic visitation shall be scheduled in its stead.

- Youth eligible for in-person visits from parents/guardians:
  - All youth not currently in preventative isolation or quarantine to mitigate the risk of transmission of COVID-19 will be permitted in-person parent/guardian visitation. Youth unable to have in-person visitation due to isolation or quarantine status shall continue to have video/telephonic visitation.
- Individuals permitted to visit youth in-person:
  - In Phase 1, in-person visitation is being limited to parents & guardians. In the event that a youth doesn't have an engaged parent or guardian, in-person visitation with their closest caregiver will be permitted instead.
- Pre-Visit Criteria:
  - All visitors and youth will be required to agree to adhere to the preventative measures prior to the visit.
  - All visitors will be required to complete a questionnaire (attached) regarding recent travel, potential risk, and potential exposure. Responses will be reviewed prior to allowing the visitor to enter the facility. Visitors identified to have a heightened risk of exposure will not be permitted to participate an in-person visit.

- All visitors will be required to undergo temperature checks prior to admittance and visitors with a temperature above 100.0 will not be permitted to participate in the in-person visit.
- Visitation Location:
  - Weather permitting, visitation will occur outside in a secured outdoor space.
    - In the event of inclement weather, the cafeteria will be marked into quarters and visitors will be required to remain within their designated section for the duration of the visit.
  - All surfaces that may be touched during indoor and outdoor visitation shall be cleaned and disinfected prior to and following in-person visitation.
- In-Visit Preventative Measures:
  - Visitors and youth shall practice hand hygiene prior to and immediately following the visit.
  - Visitors and youth will need to remain 6-foot social distancing between themselves at all times during the visit.
    - Visitors and youth will not be allowed to touch during the visit.
  - All visitors will be required to wear face coverings at all times. If visitors do not have their own face covering, surgical masks will be provided at the door.
  - All youth engaged in visit shall wear a surgical facemask.
- Visits for each cohort will occur on a set day and time each week to reduce transmission risk for all participants.

**VISITATION SCHEDULE:**

In-person visitation will resume pursuant to the below schedule beginning Monday, June 22, 2020.

In order to limit the number of individuals, in-person visits will only be permitted for one cohort of youth at a time and shall be provided between 6:00 and 7:00 PM for parents/guardians according to the following schedule:

- Monday: Youth residing on F-0
- Tuesday: Youth residing on F-1
- Wednesday: Youth residing on F-2
- Thursday: Youth residing on E-0 & E-2

Saturday visitation may be scheduled between 1:00-2:30 and 3:00-4:30 as staffing and space permits for parents/guardians unable to visit during the scheduled time. Such visits shall be addressed and scheduled through the SYSC clinical team.

**COMMUNITY VISITATION:**

Non-emergency youth visits to the community continue to remain suspended during Phase I.

SYSC VISITOR SCREENING QUESTIONS

Visitor Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date/Time: \_\_\_\_\_

1. Within the past 10 days have you had:

Yes  No  Fever (feeling feverish or a document temperature of 100.0 degrees Fahrenheit or higher);

Yes  No  Respiratory symptoms such as runny nose, nasal congestion, sore throat, cough, or shortness of breath;

Yes  No  Whole body symptoms such as muscle aches, chills, and severe fatigue;

Yes  No  New gastrointestinal symptoms such as nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea;

Yes  No  Changes in your sense of taste or smell?

2. Have you been in close contact with someone who is suspected or confirmed to have COVID-19 in the past 14 days? (note: healthcare and residential staff caring for COVID-19 patients while wearing appropriate personal protective equipment should answer “no” to this question).

Yes  No

3. Have you traveled in the past 14 days either:

I. Internationally (outside the U.S.);

II. By cruise ship; or

III. Domestically (within the U.S.) outside of NH, VT, or ME on public transportation (e.g., bus, train, plane, etc.)?

Yes  No

Temperature Results: \_\_\_\_\_

Staff Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Staff Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Visitor Signature: \_\_\_\_\_