



Benco's Program COVID-19 Risk Mitigation Plan

Updated 6/6/22

Benco has responded promptly to the COVID-19 pandemic and follows OHA, ODDS, and local public health guidance.

Benco employees are required to be vaccinated or have a documented exemption.

COVID-19 continues to present a risk in our community and is a high risk to older adults, those with underlying health conditions, and those with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Benco will follow these guidelines until conditions change.

Training:

Benco employees will receive annual training that includes infection control and OSHA's COVID-19 required training.

General Precautions:

All staff will follow outlined cleaning procedures for the program and use extra vigilance to clean/disinfect any surfaces that staff and residents regularly touch.

Staff will wash hands for 20 seconds upon entry to the program and frequently throughout their shift.

Staff will follow Benco Mask Expectations.

Staff will self-monitor for signs/symptoms of COVID-19 and call in sick if they are experiencing illness.

Prior to use of the vehicle and immediately after use of the vehicle, staff will sanitize all surfaces including the door handles, steering wheel, gear shift, tie downs, seats that will be utilized, and other surfaces accessed within the vehicle.

Staff will ensure that the person being transported is seated with the greatest physical distancing possible away from the driver. Staff will wear a facial covering and will encourage all passengers to wear facial coverings.

Staff will self-monitor for signs/symptoms of COVID-19 and call in sick if they are experiencing illness.

PPE:

Benco employees will wear masks while on shift indoors, while in vehicles, and when providing services outdoors. It is strongly recommended that employees wear a Kn95 or equivalent mask with a snug fit. Kn95 masks are provided by Benco to our employees.



In circumstances where there is a possibility of exposure to COVID-19 employees will be expected to wear a Kn95 and face shield at all times while working.

Exceptions to wearing a mask are:

- The employee is outdoors on break and is over 6 feet away from others.
- The employee is alone in a closed office space. The employee will be expected to sanitize all areas that they accessed while they had their mask off and wash their hands prior to accessing other areas of the program or interacting with co-workers and people supported.
- While eating or drinking. It is expected that the employee is in an isolated space at least 6 feet away from others and that they sanitize the space used and wash their hands prior to accessing other areas of the program or interacting with co-workers and people supported.

When following quarantine/isolation care, Benco employees will refer to Benco's Emergency Quarantine Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Procedures.

Visitors:

Individuals may have visitors in the home. Visitor logs are no longer needed under normal circumstances. They may be required if in a quarantine scenario.

Visitors will be required to wear a well-fitting face mask, regardless of vaccination status. Visitors may be declined entry into the home if the visitor is symptomatic, confirmed to have COVID-19 or has been asked to quarantine due to a recent exposure.

Any areas of the program where visitors spent time must be cleaned by program staff immediately after the visitor departs.

Visitation may be paused only when there is a confirmed outbreak of COVID-19 in the home.

Quarantine/Isolation:

Benco will notify all employees and residents within a program when there is a presumed or confirmed case of COVID-19.

Benco will follow the guidance of Benton County Public Health and will follow ODDS COVID-19 reporting expectations.

All community activities and outings will be screened to ensure that appropriate risk mitigation procedures are in place to limit the potential of exposure to COVID-19.

Visitors will not be allowed in the program until cleared. Essential visitation such as from an abuse investigator, legal guardian, licenser, services coordinator, or facilities ombudsman will be allowed with proper notification of COVID-19 scenario.

All non-essential social and recreational gatherings outside of a residence are to be avoided to the greatest extent possible for the duration of the quarantine.



Residents will be encouraged to isolate in their own bedrooms and wear a high quality facial covering any time that they may be interacting with others and 6 feet of distance can not be maintained.

Staff will implement symptom monitoring and call 911 if they have an immediate concern about the individual's wellbeing.

Benco employees will follow Benco Plan for Managing Employees with COVID-19 Infection or Exposure and Benco's Emergency Quarantine Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Procedures.

All supply deliveries will be accepted in the parking lot.

Staff receiving deliveries of medications and supplies will use extreme caution in the exchange of items. Staff will ensure there is no person-to-person contact. Staff will immediately wash their hands with soap and water for 20 seconds. Upon entry back into the home, staff will put all items in their proper location and will wash their hands.

Staff should plan for positive alternative activities for an who is under quarantine/isolation care to participate in. Those may include: crafts; reading books, individual games or puzzles; stickers; use of electronic devices, virtual communication with family and friends; or DVDs,etc.

A plan for proper cleaning/disinfecting of the individual's belongings will be developed.

Individuals may go outside for fresh air or a walk, so long as they remain at least 6 feet away from others.

Staff and residents will return to "normal" operations when either Benton County Public Health has cleared the outbreak or when all individuals affected have isolated for the specified timeline.

Illness Recommendations:

All Benco employees are expected to self-monitor for the following symptoms and follow Benco policy for calling in sick. If experiencing symptoms related to COVID-19 an employee must not enter any Benco program, home, or facility. For general illnesses, the employee must be fever free without medicine for 48 hours before coming back to work at the program.

Benco will do its best to provide appropriate staffing ratios to provide adequate supports when employees are unable to report to work due to illness.

- 1) In the event that no coverage is able to be acquired, a minimum of 1 Direct Care staff must be present at the program at all times to ensure basic health and safety supports are being followed.
- 2) In the event that no coverage is able to be acquired, a minimum of 1 RN/LPN and 1 Direct Care staff must be present at the Stone Street program at all times to ensure basic health and safety supports are being followed.
- 3) Benco will follow: Benco's Plan for Managing Employees with COVID-19 Infection or Exposure.



COVID-19 Symptoms include:

- Fever of 100.4 degrees or greater
- New or worsening cough
- Difficulty breathing
- Chills or repeated shaking with chills
- Muscle pain
- Headache
- Sore throat
- New loss of taste or smell
- Runny nose (not due to seasonal allergies)
- Nausea
- Diarrhea
- Abdominal pain

Benco will follow ODHS COVID-19 Scenarios and reporting requirements for Office of Developmental Disabilities Services (ODDS) Agency Providers Document based on specific COVID-19 scenarios.