

December 14, 2022

Re: MASK WEARING PROTOCOL

We extend our sincere appreciation for staff efforts as we continue to navigate and mitigate the impacts the COVID-19 virus has in our community. Many surrounding businesses and employers have relaxed mask wearing directives in response to recently released guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). As we continually assess and review the County's requirements for mask wearing, our next steps are as follows:

REQUIRED – REHABILITATION and NURSING CENTER and ERNEST P. BARKA ASSISTED LIVING:

The Rehabilitation and Nursing Center must adhere to the Centers for Medicaid and Medicare Services (CMS) guidance as well as follow the guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) for best practices. Upon entering the facility, all employees, contractors and vendors must sanitize their hands, put on a mask and answer screening questions. Effective December 1, 2022, the Senior Director of Long Term Care Services announced that facility staff, contractors and vendors can choose not to wear masks when in well-defined areas that are restricted from resident access. Face masks will be required within the community (RCRNC and EPBALC) when in outbreak status. Non-resident populated areas include: the Business Office, conference rooms (when not meeting with residents), and the employee fitness center.

REQUIRED – CORRECTIONS FACILITY:

The Department of Corrections, in accordance with CDC guidance, requires all employees to wear a mask at all times while in the facility. Masks are optional if employees are in their office by themselves.

OPTIONAL - ALL OTHER DEPARTMENTS:

Employees will now be given the option to refrain from wearing a mask. Any employee that chooses to continue wearing a mask is encouraged and supported. It is highly recommended that any employee experiencing symptoms contact Employee Health Services for guidance on wearing a mask when social distancing cannot be achieved in order to continue to maintain a safe and healthy working environment for all.

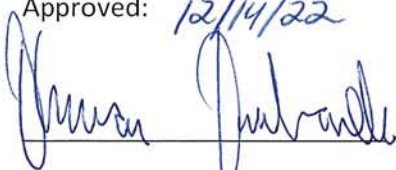
Face masks and hand sanitizer continue to be provided in each department. Social distancing and frequent hand washing/sanitizing remain recommended.

Human Resources monitors alerts and evaluates evolving guidance from various regulatory agencies as it becomes available. We will continue to assess recommendations for any potential changes to current practices. Please contact Human Resources at 603-679-9337 with any questions or concerns.

Thank you for your continued support and adherence to Rockingham County's COVID-19 protocols.

Approved:

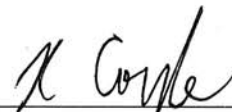
12/14/22



Thomas Tombarello, Chair



Brian Chirichiello, Vice Chair



Kathryn Coyne, Clerk