

Guidance from the Kentucky CASA Network on Program Operations During COVID-19

*Updated March 11, 2022

The next KCN COVID-19 Workgroup will take place via Zoom in May. At that point, the workgroup will decide if it is necessary to continue updating this guidance document with any additional precautions.

The Kentucky CASA Network COVID-19 Workgroup, composed of KCN staff and local program directors, is recommending that local programs refer to the COVID-19 Community Level guidance recently published by the CDC for recommendations based on individual community spread. This information is updated by the CDC every Thursday. See the map below as of March 10, 2022. County-specific information can be found on the COVID-19 Community Levels page of the CDC website.



Local CASA programs should reference the website regularly to determine the level of prevention steps that should be taken at the program level. Note that a program's coverage area may include counties that have different levels of spread. If this is the case, programs may decide to take the strictest prevention steps for the entire program or individualize prevention steps in each county.

Prevention steps from the CDC based on community level spread can also be found on the <u>CDC website</u> and the <u>KY COVID-19 website</u>. See below for those recommendations combined with CASA-specific recommendations based on these levels.

Prevention Steps Based on Your COVID-19 Community Level		
Low	Medium	High
 Conduct visits, meetings, trainings, and events in-person, as allowable by the venues' policies <u>High-risk</u> volunteers may still request an exception to conduct virtual visits; however, it is strongly recommended to conduct in-person while wearing a mask Stay <u>up to date</u> with COVID-19 vaccines <u>Get tested</u> if you have symptoms 	 Conduct visits, meetings, trainings, and events in-person, as allowable by the venues' policies Consider universal mask use when indoors, especially in a large setting High-risk volunteers may still request an exception to conduct virtual visits; however, it is strongly recommended to conduct in-person while wearing a mask Stay up to date with COVID-19 vaccines Get tested if you have symptoms 	 Limit indoor in-person gatherings, reduce the size of gatherings, and encourage physical distancing Consider conducting visits, meetings, trainings, and events outdoors or virtually to reduce community spread Universal mask use when indoors Stay <u>up to date</u> with COVID-19 vaccines <u>Get tested</u> if you have symptoms

The KCN recommends that local program directors and board members continue to consider guidance from the <u>Commonwealth of Kentucky</u>, the <u>CDC</u>, and their local health departments when creating and enforcing policies about program operations during a pandemic.

Recommendations from COVID Workgroup Throughout All Levels:

- The KCN and the COVID Workgroup strongly recommend that all staff, volunteers, and board members get the COVID-19 vaccine and booster shot
- Local programs should regularly monitor community spread in their area and statewide, and stay in close communication with their local health departments
- When sharing information and data with the community, local programs should cite the source of the data (CDC, Team Kentucky, and/or local health departments)
- Data & Resources to Share:
 - o KDPH COVID-19 data
 - Find a COVID vaccine near you
 - Find a COVID testing site
 - CDC COVID vaccine FAQs
 - KY Chamber 'COVID Stops Here' campaign

Resources:

- <u>"High Five for Health" campaign FAQs and steps for parents and caregivers to consider when getting children ages 5-11 vaccinated</u>
- □ Updated "Take It From Me" campaign urges COVID-19 vaccinations
- Increasing Vaccine Confidence through Communication and Community Engagement
- Managing Remote Employee Risk