

2020 COVID-19 (CORONAVIRUS) PLAN

Risk Assessment Guidelines

Contact With Children and Families

Guidelines for Assessing Risk of COVID-19 Exposure

Effective March 19, 2020 through August 28, 2020

Prior to any client or caregiver contact caseworkers are to ask the following questions to assess the risk of COVID-19 exposure:

- Is anyone in the home currently ill?
- Does anyone in the home have a fever, chills, shaking, muscle pain, sore throat, loss of taste or smell, headache, a cough and/or shortness of breath? Or been advised by a health care professional that they are presumed positive for COVID-19, or been advised to quarantine?
- Has anyone in the home been in direct contact with persons with COVID-19?
- Is anyone in the home a healthcare worker?
- Is anyone in the home over age 60, or does anyone have a chronic medical condition that compromises their health or may put them at higher risk for infection or illness?

If any response to the above questions is yes, please consult with your supervisor to determine if face to face contact should occur. An alternate plan may include a form of contact other than face-to-face for at least 14 days from exposure or symptom free (i.e. video conferencing, or frequent phone calls to the home speaking to all parties).

If a face-to-face visit needs to occur due to imminent assessment of safety, the worker must consult with his/her supervisor and Department Director to discuss a plan of action. This may require consultation with Summit County Health Department.

All SCCS staff are required to wear a face covering during home visits.

SCCS staff should ask clients and caregivers to wear a face covering prior to home visits, when visits are inside the home and ample social distancing (a minimum of 6 ft) cannot be assured. Or at anytime social distancing cannot be maintained, regardless of location.

TALKING POINTS WHEN CONTACTING CHILDREN & FAMILIES:

- Due to the current concerns with COVID19, also known as Coronavirus, some of my time with you today might seem impersonal. I want you to know that Summit County Children Services is taking extra precautions, as recommended by the Ohio Department of Health, to do our best to keep you, me, and the children we serve healthy.
- You may have heard the term "social distancing". This is one of the best ways to prevent or slow the spread of illness, as such I am wearing a mask and plan to maintain a safe social distance. During our time together, I will attempt to avoid physical contact with you and your child(ren). This means I will not shake your hand and attempt to not touch surfaces. We may also find it reasonable to conduct our conversations in another location or outside. Please know, these precautions are for your protection, your child(ren)'s protection, as well as mine.
- The best way to make sure we are all (both) safe and to avoid the spread of the virus is for all (both) of us to wear a face covering. Would you please wear a face covering while we are talking today? If you don't have one I have a one-time use mask I can give you to wear.
- It is important for us to work together to assure the safety and wellbeing of your child(ren). I appreciate your understanding.