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Division of Milwaukee Child Protective Services

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DMPCS Guidance for Facilities Required to Quarantine or Isolate

*Issued by DMCPSC for Congregate Care Facilities Contracted with DMCPSC
DCF Order #23*

This document was created in response to the COVID-19 pandemic and is to be utilized during the 2020 COVID-19 Public Health Emergency by all congregate care facilities where there is a child placed by the Division of Milwaukee Child Protective Services (DMCPSC).

This document should be used to supplement any information provided to you by medical professionals of any child(ren) in your care, and if there are any questions or discrepancies, immediately consult the Wisconsin Department of Health's (DHS) emergency COVID-19 line at (608) 225-4793 between the hours of 8am and 8pm, or contact your local public health department.

DCF continues to issue guidance to all licensed facilities in the state of Wisconsin, and facilities should continue to reference the website for updates (<https://dcf.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/guidance>), or contact their child welfare licensing worker. Guidance will continue to be issued to providers as new information becomes available about this disease, and DCF creates resources to assist congregate facilities in the preparation and management of COVID-19.

DMCPSC Pandemic Preparedness Steps

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic and to minimize the spread of the virus to additional individuals, DMCPSC has designated three (3) instances in which quarantine/isolation is required:

1. Children with known or suspected exposure to COVID-19, who are currently asymptomatic
2. Children exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19 with no test
3. Children with positive or negative test results of COVID-19

In all the above circumstances, facilities and the contracted agencies should immediately notify DMCPSC of a child/facility in need of quarantine/isolation, per the "Notification to DMCPSC regarding confirmed testing and/or exposure to COVID-19," issued on March 19, 2020. Once DMCPSC receives notification through the DCFDMCPSCCOVID@wisconsin.gov inbox. DMCPSC will help facilities and agencies

determine what level of quarantine/isolation is needed, the length of quarantine/isolation, and where the child should be placed (in coordination with the child placing agency).

Milwaukee Quarantine/Isolation Locations: Where can children served by DMCPs be quarantined/isolated?

1. In their **Current Placement**
Facilities should assist children in practicing self-quarantine/isolation behaviors at their current placement (if the child was residing in the placement prior to exposure/symptoms) in the following circumstances:
 - a. The child was exposed to COVID-19 in the community, and returned to the licensed facility prior to knowledge of exposure
 - b. The child is showing symptoms of COVID-19, and has not been tested (or is awaiting test results) without known community exposure
2. In a facility that has specifically been designated for this purpose by DMCPs. These facilities are to be used *temporarily* and can only be accessed through DMCPs. There are two (2) kinds of facilities that are currently available for this purpose:
 - a. **Quarantine Facilities** (Non-Symptomatic / Contact)
This facility is to be used in the following circumstances:
 - The child was exposed in community to COVID-19 but is not displaying symptoms of COVID-19
 - The child's exposure to COVID-19 is unknown
 - b. **Isolation Facilities** (Symptomatic or Positive Case)
This facility is to be used in the following circumstances:
 - The child has a positive or negative COVID-19 test
 - The child is experiencing symptoms of COVID-19 (awaiting test results or medical professionals do not believe testing is necessary)

Which children can be placed in the quarantine locations?

DMCPs has contracted with specific group homes in Milwaukee County for children who are:

1. Entering out-of-home (OHC)
2. Returning to their OHC placement after an extended community pass that resulted in exposure (but did not return to placement and expose the placement resource)
Note: this does not include children who frequently go missing from care and are exposed in the community.
3. Were exposed to COVID-19 at a temporary placement setting (i.e. hospital or inpatient stay)

Discontinuation of Quarantine or Isolation

Based on updated guidance from Wisconsin's Department of Health Services, DMCPHS is recommending that all quarantine/isolation facilities follow the following protocol¹²:

For residents *with* symptoms from any cause

Positive COVID-19 test or Negative COVID-19 test

Quarantine/Isolation may be discontinued when **both** of the following have occurred:

- Free from fever, productive cough and other acute symptoms of respiratory infection for 72 hours
AND
- 7 days have elapsed from 1st day of symptoms

OR

- Non-test based strategy, detailed in [DCF Order #17](#)

For residents *without* symptoms

No COVID-19 test with Confirmed or Possible Community Transmission

Quarantine/Isolation may be discontinued when:

- 14 days have elapsed from 1st day of isolation
AND
- Have not developed any symptoms during isolation period

DHS and the CDC are not recommending testing for individuals who are asymptomatic and who have or may have been exposed to the disease at this time. Quarantine is the recommended strategy (updated on 3/27/2020).

¹ <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/disposition-in-home-patients.html>

² <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/dph/memos/communicable-diseases/2020-08.pdf>