

# BARC

## **Bristol Adult Resource Center**

**Serving adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities since 1957**

**Administrative Offices \* 195 Maltby Street \* PO Box 726 \* Bristol, CT 06011-0726 \* P (860) 261-5592 \* F (860) 845-8896**

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To: Current Day Program Staff, Participants, families, guardians and/or residential providers

From: Ivonne Daigle, Director of Day Services 

Date: 8/5/2021

RE: Changes in Requirements for Day Program Participation

Due to concerns related to increased cases of COVID-19 in Connecticut, the spread of the Delta variant of COVID-19 and based on recommendations from the Department of Health, we are making changes to our protocols regarding masks.

Beginning Monday August 9<sup>th</sup>, day program participants will need to return to wearing masks while attending their day programs. If an individual is unable to wear a mask due to medical/behavioral concerns, a mask exemption form must be submitted no later than 8/23/21. Please reach out to the program manager if you/the individual you support is unable to wear a mask; let the manager know that you are working to secure the exemption. (Individuals in this category will be allowed to continue to attend program without masks until 8/23/21, while the exemption form is being secured.)

We will not resume screening individuals prior to entering programs, at this time. All individuals who have any symptoms of COVID (fever above 100.4 or chills, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fatigue, muscle or body aches, loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, vomiting or diarrhea) should still contact their assigned nurse for direction. Please also contact your assigned nurse if your individual or any household member has been in close contact with a person who was positive or suspected positive for COVID. You should also continue to contact your assigned nurse if you travel overnight out of state (regardless of vaccination status).

Individuals transported by BARC will continue to wear a mask during transport. The exception would be if they are being transported with only their housemates. Individuals who utilize other transportation should continue to follow that provider's procedures.

While we had reduced our social distancing to 3 feet, individuals who are unable to wear masks will be prompted to stay 6 feet from their peers.

Our staff, whether vaccinated or unvaccinated, will still be wearing masks while providing direct care (unless they are outside). Also, BARC staff will continue to walk individuals both into and out of their programs.

I have been so impressed with our individuals and their ability to comply with our guidelines.

Please reach out to me ([idaigle@bristolarc.org](mailto:idaigle@bristolarc.org) or 860-582-9102x131) or your individual's day program manager with any questions. Thank you!