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THE F. M. KIRBY CHILDREN'S CENTER/MADISON AREA YMCA

Kitchen COVID-19 Prevention Policy

Promoting and maintaining the health and safety of both children and staff is always a priority, and with Coronavirus currently a concern in our area, strict health protocols must be followed by staff to limit the spread. Kitchen staff are required to follow the following procedures in addition to the usual everyday preventive actions taken to prevent the spread of respiratory illness.

In addition to the regularly observed kitchen protocols, all staff will practice the following procedures as well:

- All staff, including kitchen staff, will be screened prior to entry into the building.
- All staff, including kitchen staff, will receive training on proper cleaning, disinfecting, and sanitation techniques.
- All kitchen staff will wash hands with soap and water upon entering the kitchen each morning.
- All kitchen staff will wear gloves and masks at all times while inside the kitchen. All counters will be cleaned with a bleach solution and wiped down prior to first use in the morning and before and after each use throughout the day.
- Staff will wash hands with soap and water and apply gloves before handling food or utensils.
- When returning to the kitchen, staff will wash hands with soap and water and apply new gloves.
- Access to kitchen will be limited to kitchen appointed staff and to others for emergency use only.
- Food in refrigerators and freezers will be stored at the proper temperature and kept in individual packages to avoid cross contamination.
- All meals, including snacks, will be prepared on-site and served in pre-packaged disposable containers or plated in the classroom and placed in front of the seated child. Each child will receive disposable utensils that will be discarded after use.
- In order to minimize the presence of additional staff in the kitchen, all pre-packaged meals or food to be served on plates will be delivered to individual classrooms.
- Keeping with CDC rules and recommendations, there will be no family-style serving of food. Age-appropriate infants will be fed as needed and older children will eat directly from their pre-packaged container or individual plate.
- Any non-disposable items (e.g., bins, serving utensils, cutting boards, etc.) will be put through a high-heat sanitizer and put away immediately to avoid contact with other surfaces.
- Fruits and vegetables will continue to be rinsed thoroughly prior to serving.
- Exterior surfaces such as door handles and refrigerator doors will be cleaned daily.