Alpha House
Interfaith Hospitality Network

Current COVID-19 Prevention Guidelines

Joining Us At Alpha House.

- **Personal Protection.** Alpha House has personal protection supplies on hand that includes face masks - both cloth and N95's - gloves, goggles and face shields. Masks are no longer required but if you would like to wear one we have them in stock if you need one. In the event of a potential or confirmed case of COVID-19, Alpha House is prepared to act swiftly.
- **Hand Sanitizer.** Multiple free-standing hand sanitizer stands are located throughout Alpha House at high traffic areas - before entering our building; entrance to our dining room; and in-between the two family rooms (computer room and TV room). We also have several sanitizer pump gel containers throughout Alpha House. Hands should be washed, cleaned and sanitized at both the beginning and end of your time with us.
- **Footwear Sanitizer.** At our entrance in our vestibule is a Sani Stride system. It is a double lined mat soaked in disinfectant intended to clean and disinfect the bottom of shoes. This is done to prevent viruses and bacteria from entering our building. We ask that everyone entering/exiting our building step on it. *For this reason, wearing thin footwear such as flip flop's is discouraged.*
- **Temperature Screenings.** Our front desk staff is no longer taking individual temperatures or asking screening questions to anyone entering our building - including staff, volunteers, visitors, and client families. Even though temperatures are not being taken, high temperatures matter. Following CDC guidelines, if you are not feeling well or have a temperature, please stay home. You may also want to consider contacting your PCP. Anyone with a fever or not feeling well for any reason will be asked to leave.
- **Disinfecting.** Alpha House staff have dramatically increased the level and frequency of cleaning within Alpha House. All surfaces where the virus may potentially infect are

being addressed on a regular basis. While this should provide comfort for staff, volunteers, visitors, and client families, do not put all of your trust in our operation team alone. We ask that you clean, sanitize and disinfect your space both before and after your time with us.

- **Front Desk.** We have a Plexiglass screen that covers our front desk counter. It serves to protect both the public and our front desk staff. Like in other settings, we too have stanchions and taped x's on our floor to promote physical distancing and avoid overcrowding.

Donations and Drop Off's.

- **Community Donations.** For obvious reasons, donations are being limited at this time. While we are still accepting donations during the pandemic, please reach out to Zach Crutchfield at either 810.516.5979 or zcrutchfield@alphahouse-ihn.org prior to you visiting us to best determine if your donation can be accepted.
- **Congregational Donations.** Including our Weekly Pantry Item Needs. All can continue to be dropped off in the manner you're used to. To differentiate from general community donations, feel free to share with our front desk staff the congregation you're representing.
- **Wish List Item Donations.** Items from our ongoing Wish List can continue to be donated at any time. Click to view our current Wish List.
- **Contactless Drop Offs.** At Alpha House, we are prepared to receive your donation in whatever way is most comfortable to you.
    - If you prefer to bring your donation inside our building, we ask that you place it inside our first set of doors, in our vestibule. Staff will then retrieve your donation from there.
    - If you prefer contactless, please call our front desk 734.822.0220 when you are a few minutes away from our building. Our staff will then put a service cart out front for you. Once you arrive, fill the cart. After you leave, our staff will then retrieve your donation. ***Note! If you're calling and no one answers, it's likely our staff has been pulled away from the front desk attending to our families needs. Simply wait a few minutes and call back.***

Hosting Meals.

- **Meals Needed.** Providing meals daily continues to be a critical need for our families. To see open availability for meals needed, please VIEW HERE as well as reach out to Zach Crutchfield at zcrutchfield@alphahouse-ihn.org

- **Planning and Preparing.** Many individuals, groups and teams have taken advantage of the pandemic to bless two entities when hosting a meal for Alpha House by ordering dinner for us through take-out or delivery of a local restaurant. Many others are still planning and preparing at home. And still others are choosing to prepare using our commercial kitchen at Alpha House. All options are welcomed. If planning and preparing at home, please observe current Serv Safe guidelines like those in the food industry are. To view those guidelines, visit www.servsafe.com
- **Serving Meals.** We continue to serve meals within the parameters of caution. Meals can be plated in our back kitchen and then served to our families. Communal food or buffet lines are starting to reappear in our family kitchen. Multiple families are beginning to join us at the same time for dinner. We encourage engagement from our families at a level they feel comfortable with. For some, that might be eating after volunteers and staff have left the kitchen. All food including left-overs are put into single serve containers and/or baggies. Alpha House Staff have completely embraced serving responsibilities alongside Volunteer Meal Hosts to minimize interaction and exposure to our families and each other.

Hosting Kids Activities.

- **When.** Kids Activities including free play usually takes place every night following dinner. This supervised play time allows our parents a small break to focus on other priorities should they have any. Parents are welcome to join in. Some do. Kids Activities can also take place during the day and on weekends by partnering with Zach Crutchfield to help create opportunities for engagement.
- **Where.** Indoors or outdoors depending on day, time and weather. Our families always have the option to choose to opt in or opt out of the activity itself.
- **Supervising Our Kids.** We ask volunteers to volunteer in pairs to ensure safety and appropriateness for both volunteers and families is always present. Volunteers can be from any group, family, or congregation interested in hosting Kids Activities Time.
- **Prevention.** The above sanitation procedures and precaution also applies to Kids Activity Times. Both volunteers and our children are expected to wear face masks following recommended CDC and our Washtenaw Health Department guidelines.

Any additional questions are always welcomed by reaching out to Zachary Crutchfield at 734.249.5014 office; 810.516.5979 text/mobile; or by email zcrutchfield@alphahouse-ihn.org

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