

COVID-19

Safety Protocols for Volunteers

Updated October 21, 2022

In the interest of public health and personal safety, Twin Cities Habitat for Humanity (TCHFH) is instituting temporary safety protocols for all volunteer opportunities on site. These protocols are tailored to volunteer operations, using Minnesota Department of Labor (MN OSHA) and CDC COVID-19 guidelines.

Expectations for Persons Exposed To, or Exhibiting Symptoms of COVID-19

STAY AT HOME!

Anyone with symptoms of COVID-19 should isolate until a test can be taken. Additionally, the following guidelines are in place for those who have tested positive for COVID-19 or those who have been in close contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19.

CLOSE CONTACT	
Vaccinated	Quarantine for 3 days – Return on day 4 with no symptoms and a negative test
Unvaccinated	Quarantine for 7 days – Return on day 8 with no symptoms and a negative test
POSITIVE COVID-19 TEST	
Vaccinated	Quarantine for 7 days – Return on day 8 with at least two days symptom free and a negative test
Unvaccinated	Quarantine for 10 days – Return on day 11 with at least two days symptom free and a negative test

If you have any questions, or if you would like any clarification on what meets the above criteria, please contact your TCHFH contact before your arrival.

If Symptoms Appear While on Site or After a Day on Site

1. Immediately return home and contact your health care provider as appropriate.
2. Notify your TCHFH contact and site supervisor that you are experiencing symptoms.
3. Volunteer Management will ask who you have been in close contact with in the past two weeks.
4. Volunteer Management or your site supervisor will alert those who were in close contact.
5. Your health status will remain confidential.
6. Site may be shut-down on short notice in accordance with Safety Policy.

PPE, Hygiene, & Distancing

Vaccine and Testing Information

Following CDC guidance, vaccination and testing policies are not required but highly encouraged for volunteers joining us on site.

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

- Masks are optional, regardless of vaccination status.
- As with all COVID-19 protocols, mask requirements may change based on case counts and public health guidance.

Distancing

- We encourage social distancing of at least six (6) feet between individuals when possible.
- Many construction activities require closer than six (6) feet (framing, scaffold erection and deconstruction, sheetrock, exterior insulation, weather barrier, window and door installation, siding, flooring and cabinet install). These activities will be present throughout the build.
- Work on separate floors or areas when possible while working on the interior of a home.
- Work on separate parts of the house while working on the exterior of a home where possible.

Stay Safe While Volunteering

- Wash hands with soap and water frequently for at least 20 seconds.
 - TCHFH will provide adequate handwashing stations at all sites, including those without running water.
 - Hand sanitizer is recommended if handwashing is not available.
- Minimize contact with common surfaces (handles, etc.).
- Each person should use their own set of tools (hand tools, power tools, ladders, power cords, etc.) and materials (screws, nails, etc.) during the course of work where possible.
 - Habitat will provide all necessary tools, but you are encouraged to bring your own hand tools.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Cover all coughs and sneezes with your elbow.

Additional Sanitation

- TCHFH staff will sanitize hard surfaces and all tools on site after each work shift.
- ReStore staff will clean and sanitize common areas, bathrooms, carts, and hard top surfaces on a regular basis and as needed. More thorough cleaning will take place during non-access hours.

If you have any further questions, please contact our volunteer coordinator at volunteer@tchabitat.org or 612-305-7114