



# EMERGENCY HOUSING AND ADVOCACY PROGRAM

*Winter Overnight Program – 2021-22 Season*

**COVID-19 Protocols & Precautions**

## Clients

- Requirements for entry into the program
  - All clients must receive their first dose of any authorized COVID-19 vaccine in order to be admitted to the program. A second dose or any requirements to become “fully” vaccinated must be met in order to remain in the program.
  - A rapid COVID-19 self-test will be provided on the first day of entry into the program and must yield a negative result. After the first day, all clients will be tested according to the testing schedule.
- COVID-19 Testing Requirements throughout the term of the hospitality program
  - Rapid COVID-19 tests will be conducted twice each week
    - On Tuesday evenings, the Monmouth County Health Department will test clients at St. Peter’s Church during intake.
    - On Friday evenings, a rapid self-test will be provided and must be utilized by clients and yield a negative result.
- Masking: Clients will be required to wear a mask when not eating, sleeping or using the bathroom.

## Volunteers & Paid Security

- Requirements for Volunteers that will interact with clients
  - **All volunteers interacting with clients must be fully vaccinated.** Anyone who is not able to be vaccinated (e.g. children under 12) may not be in the presence clients. EHAP is determined to provide assistance this year to the most vulnerable in our community and therefore is taking all precautions to keep clients and volunteers safe and healthy. COVID-19 infections among clients in our program could result in the temporary suspension of winter overnight program.
  - Volunteers must be masked at all times in the presence of clients. In the past, volunteers were encouraged to eat with clients. In the interest of everyone’s safety, and as a precautionary measure to ensure the program is not suspended, we are taking this extra safety measure. Interaction is still encouraged, while masked.
  - Security guards must be fully vaccinated and masked except when the clients are sleeping or when eating or using the bathroom. Security guards must maintain adequate distance before removing their masks under all circumstances, except an emergency.

### **Houses of Worship/Winter Overnight Program Locations**

- Guidelines for sleeping arrangements
  - Clients should have the same blankets/pillows/sheets for use each week. A storage bin or bag should be used and labeled with the client's name.
  - If possible, a large room allowing for adequate distancing between beds should be used. As per CDC guidelines, at least 6' between each man is best. If possible, a window or door can be left open slightly to allow for additional ventilation.
- Guidelines for food preparation and serving
  - Volunteers should serve and/or plate food so that utensils are not shared among clients.
  - A bottle of hand sanitizer should be available for client/volunteer use prior to eating. Please make sanitizer available for the duration of their stay.
  - Second helpings and second drinks should be provided on new/clean plates/cups.
  - Sanitizer should be provided and used by clients and volunteers prior to handling food, plates, cutlery, etc.
  - Clients should have adequate space between each other while eating.

### **Transportation to/from Houses of Worship:**

- Clients and volunteers must wear masks at all times while being transported to/from St. Peter's Church and individual houses of worship.
- Windows should be open slightly to allow for thorough ventilation.

### **EHAP Protocols in the event of:**

- Positive COVID test during weekly testing
  - In the event of a positive COVID-19 test result, the EHAP director will contact appropriate county resources, and the individual testing positive will be placed in a hotel for ten nights, and re-tested or cleared by a medical professional before re-entry into the program.
  - If more than two people test positive during the same one-week period, then the program may be suspended for two weeks or possibly the rest of the season. In the interest of keeping everyone safe, EHAP cannot allow the men to remain together if the virus appears to be spreading among them.
- Signs of illness during overnight stay
  - COVID-19 Self tests will be available in the event that someone is symptomatic. If someone is not feeling well, we will do our best to physically distance them and will also ask them to take a self-test. In the event of a positive test result, the individual will be moved to a hotel or taken to a medical facility immediately.