

# Voyageurs Lutheran Ministry (VLM)

## 2021 Summer Program Preparedness Plan:

The purpose of the Voyageurs Lutheran Ministry (VLM) preparedness plan is to guide the VLM staff in establishing practices and procedures to help prevent the spread of Covid-19 while still providing quality summer program experiences for campers in a safe and healthy environment. This document is an overview of VLM's primary Covid-19 mitigation efforts and provides some detailed procedures for specific functions or program areas. The primary objective is to reduce exposure to Covid-19 through physical distancing, management of group size, and through adaptation of camp activities and schedules.

### This Document Includes Covid-19 Procedures and Information About:

Pre-Camp Communication and Expectations	Voyageur Canoe Country
Camper Check-in Procedures/Day of Registration	VLM Staff
Healthcare During Camp	Summer Guests/Activity Leaders
Camp Life/On-site Camp Protocols	Cleaning and Sanitization
Closing/Camper Pick Up	Food Service
Family Camp	Positive Covid Case Protocols

**Please share this information with your children  
as your family prepares to head to camp this summer!**



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leadership development, and outreach in God's great northwoods!*

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Dear Parents and Church Leaders,

We know you are excited to get back to camp. Please know that the VLM staff are just as excited! IN addition to the excitement we all feel, there is also some anxiety as we make sure that we do it as safely as possible. The enclosed information relies on the standards and recommendations from our local, state and federal agencies. As you know those recommendations have changed a lot in the last 6 months, and they may yet change again before your child comes to camp. We continue to do our best to both adapt to the looser restrictions and to make sure we are prepared should the situation worsen.

### **A Word About Our Shared Responsibility**

Being able to gather safely around the campfire again up to all of us. When we are following safety protocols, getting vaccinated, and practicing good hygiene, we are not doing it just for ourselves. **Our efforts to stay safe are not selfish - our behavior protects the community.** As you prepare to join us at camp this summer, please remember that we are in this together. Everything you do to stay safe this summer, helps to protect all of the campers and staff. Thank you!

### **A Word About Vaccines**

VLM encourages everyone to get vaccinated as soon as you are able. There are a lot of different precautions that all of us can take to protect our community from the spread of COVID-19 such as physical distancing, masking, washing our hands, etc. **Vaccines are a key component in reaching our goal to gather at camp in a safe and healthy environment.** For decades, vaccinations have been part of a healthy life for kids attending school and camp. We know there are a lot of questions when it comes to vaccines and we encourage you to discuss this with your family and a healthcare professional. VLM has discussed this recommendation with our local and state agencies and our local doctors. We are encouraging all of our staff, parents, and campers of vaccination age, to get vaccinated.

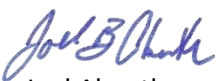
### **A Word About Campers and Facemasks**

On May 13th, Minnesota's Governor shared how the CDC's masking recommendations will be followed in the state. Because the loosening of masking requirements is for those who are vaccinated, and there is no way to fully verify the vaccinations of each and every camper, parent, or visitor coming to Camp Hiawatha and Camp Vermilion, VLM has implemented the following masking procedures for camp this summer. Please note - these may change as more of the population becomes vaccinated.

**Facemasks will be mandatory for campers when indoors if more than one cabin group is present. Facemasks are not required when eating/drinking or when outside except when physical distancing is difficult or impractical.**

Thank you for adapting with us as we get through this next stage of the pandemic and begin to gather safely at camp again. Please take some time to review the following information. We will let you know of any additional changes as soon as we can. Thank you for doing your best to protect our children and the camp community!

Thank you! And we will see you at camp!



Joel Abenth  
Executive Director



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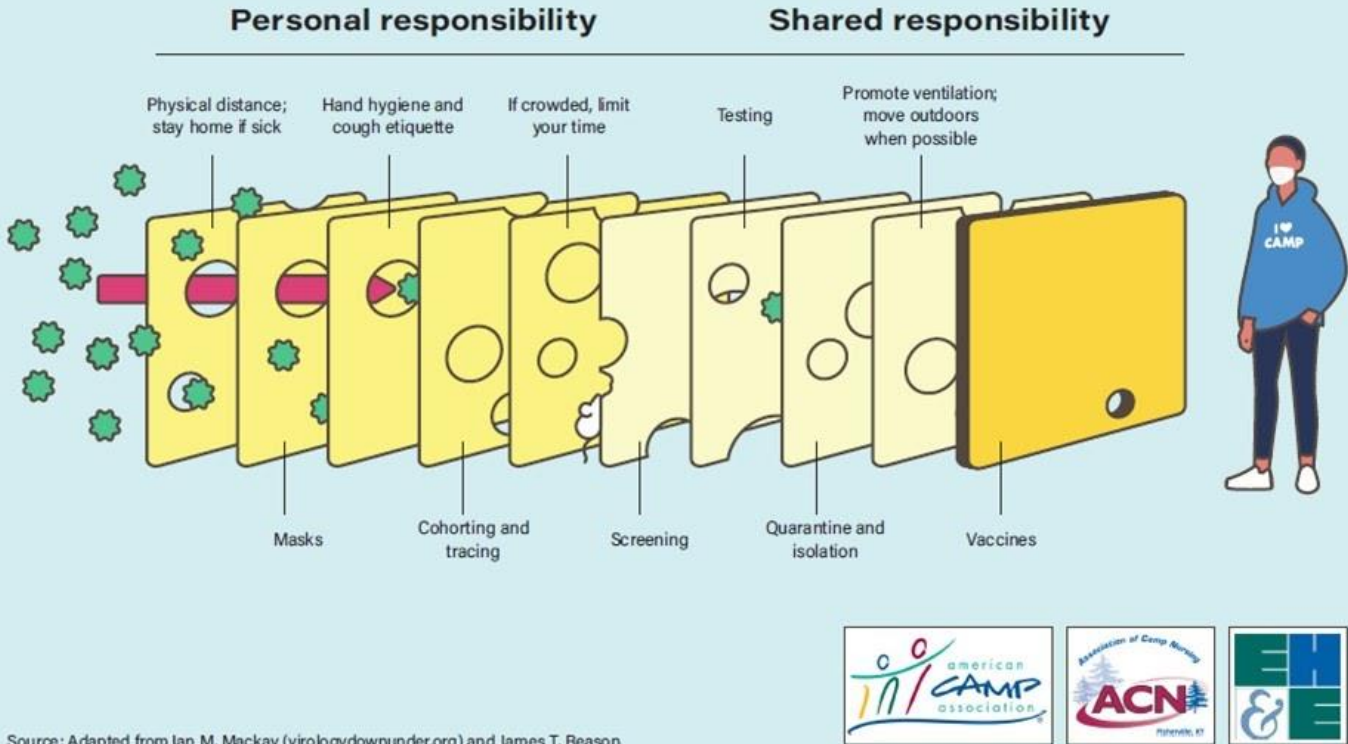
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# THE SWISS CHEESE RESPIRATORY VIRUS DEFENSE

Recognize that no single intervention is perfect at preventing spread. Each intervention has its limitations. Multiple layers mitigate risk.



## Watch for These Symptoms:

People with COVID-19 have had a wide range of symptoms reported – ranging from mild symptoms to severe illness. Symptoms may appear 2-14 days after exposure to the virus.

### People with these symptoms may have COVID-19:

- |  |                                   |                                 |
|--|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| <b>Fever or chills</b>                             | <b>Fatigue</b>                    | <b>Sore throat</b>              |
| <b>Cough</b>                                       | <b>Muscle or body aches</b>       | <b>Congestion or runny nose</b> |
| <b>Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing</b> | <b>Headache</b>                   | <b>Nausea or vomiting</b>       |
|  | <b>New loss of taste or smell</b> | <b>Diarrhea</b>                 |

This list does not include all possible symptoms. CDC will continue to update this list as we learn more about COVID-19. [www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html](http://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html)



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## **Pre-Camp Communication and Expectations**

VLM will use email as the primary source of communication before the start of camp. The first email will be sent following registration and will include a Covid FAQ document and link to this document. Our hope is to provide parents or guardians of registered campers with the overall plan and prevention practices that are being put into place for the summer of 2021. **Additional email messages will be sent if governmental agencies make significant Covid-19 policy changes, or other changes in procedures that impact campers or their families, or if any other significant changes are made to this plan.** VLM will notify you immediately of any decision to cancel programs.

Campers that are at high risk of serious complications from a Covid-19 infection, or live in a household that has an individual considered high-risk, are recommended to not attend camp this summer. High-risk individuals are those with certain underlying health conditions and older adults. If you are unsure of your risk factors consult your medical provider and reference [additional information from the CDC.](#)

Prior to their scheduled arrival at camp, camper families will be emailed a **Camper Covid-19 Health Acknowledgment** (see copy at end of this document) which informs VLM that your camper is, and has recently been, symptom free. VLM is requesting that campers and families do their best to follow CDC and MDH recommendations and practice good hygiene. Upon arrival at camp, the first step of the registration process will be to hand in the acknowledgement stating that your camper is symptom free.

**VLM will do our best to reschedule any Campers who have Covid-19 symptoms or who have been in close contact with someone with symptoms or who has a confirmed case.**

Any updates or announcements regarding changes in Covid procedures will be made on the VLM's website's Covid-19 page (<https://www.VLMcamps.org/covid-safety>) and on the VLM Facebook page.

## **Camper Check-in Procedures/Day of Registration**

The registration process will be outdoors as much as logistically possible. Campers are encouraged to arrive between 3 p.m. and 4 p.m. on the day of arrival (9 a.m for Discoverers). We are doing everything possible to limit the spread of Covid-19 including being outdoors as much as possible, wearing masks when indoors and keeping families physically distant during the check-in process. Staff and signage will direct you through the check-in steps. Please be patient – remember, we are in this together!

**To speed up the process before arriving please remember to:**

### **Remember to Pack Masks!**

Parents should **add one facemask per day** (with a spare-7 masks total) to their child's packing list for camp. There will be a limited supply of face masks at camp.

We recommend two-layered cloth masks that fit comfortably. Paper/surgical masks are discouraged as they are not durable or sustainable. Please label with camper name as able.

- **Remain at your vehicle until directed.**
- **Finalize all camper fees and deposit any canteen monies into camper accounts prior to arriving at camp.**
- **Have your Camper Health Acknowledgement signed, all registration paperwork and any medications out and ready to be turned in.**
- **Masks will be required when entering camp buildings to use the bathroom or to enter the camp canteen.**
- **Parents will be able to walk their kids to their cabin but are asked not to enter the cabin.**

**PLEASE NOTE:** VLM campers will not be allowed to finish the registration process if the camper(s) does not have a parent/guardian signed Covid-19 Health Acknowledgement. In the event that this is not signed, parents/guardians will be contacted to complete it and submit it electronically. The camper(s) will wait in an area away from other campers and staff, until that document is received and confirmed.

**If the situation worsens, VLM will implement a “drive thru check-in” for camper arrival.  
In this case, an email will be sent to parents outlining that process.**

### **Health Care During Camp**

The onsite Health Care Coordinator will check in with cabin counselors daily to check-in about any campers having Covid-19 related symptoms in addition to their regular duties with medicine distribution and camper wellness. All VLM summer staff will be trained how to identify Covid-19 symptoms and to report them immediately to the health care coordinator. Parents will be notified and the camper will be sent home if symptoms are present. If the symptomatic camper is unable to leave the site immediately, they will be isolated in the summer health care office (this space is maintained by the Health Care Coordinator, has limited public access, and is sanitized between campers). Families of cabin mates will be notified by phone of the situation, and updated once test results have been received. The family of any camper sent home due to Covid symptoms should report any COVID-19 test results to the site Program Director. The presence of a confirmed positive Covid test will be shared confidentiality with the families of any camper, staff, or community member who may have been exposed.

Medications will be distributed to campers individually, as needed and prescribed, at the appropriate time for each medication. Hand sanitizer will be used by the camper prior to receiving their medication. The Health Care Coordinator will use hand sanitizer in between each camper or staff member and will keep records of distribution.

Appropriate PPE and Covid procedures will be used by the Health Care Coordinator at all times when working with campers and staff. All medical treatment will be done in accordance with the best practices

and procedures laid out in VLM's Summer Community Policies and Procedures and appropriate records will be kept in-line with the industry standard.

### **Camp Life/On-site Camp Protocols**

The summer of 2021 will run a little differently in camp. The daily schedule will consist of some indoor activities that they will do independently of other cabins along with outdoor full camp community games and campfires. Cabin groups will experience various programs throughout the day, such as games, Bible study and discussion, canteen, and waterfront time. As appropriate, multiple cabin groups may work together in a traditional "village" setting. Masking and physical distancing guidelines will be followed when indoors and as appropriate in outdoor settings.

#### **Cabin Group**

A cabin group is defined by the counselor and assigned campers who reside in one cabin for the duration of their camp stay. VLM is limiting the full site capacity to no more than 1/2 of total site bed space and will be adjusting cabin use and capacity within that limit.

#### **Swimming and Canoeing**

Waterfront use will be monitored to ensure proper physical distancing is maintained. Waterfront equipment (paddles, canoes, lifejackets, etc.) will be sanitized by the cabin group before and after use.

#### **Grovers, Journeys, and Kapers**

Traditional Grovers and Journeys that involve campers choosing activities will be incorporated into the program rotation schedule and engaged in by the entire cabin. These activities will be led by staff and/or select volunteers who have signed a pre-arrival screening waiver and are symptom free.

As part of their daily schedule, cabin groups will also be assigned Kapers (opportunities to serve the community through tasks that support the community experience, i.e. cleaning of communal areas like the bathhouse and dining hall, helping with the garden, doing a litter sweep.) Campers will be masked and wear gloves while doing any indoor Kaper, and no two cabins will be assigned to the same space.

#### **Canteen**

Canteen occupancy will be based on MDH guidelines. Canteen time will be a part of the daily rotation schedule. Age groups will be assigned a time segment where they can purchase snacks and beverages. Parents will also have the option to order clothing and souvenirs online for pick-up on Sundays and/or

One of the best tools we have at camp to minimize the spread of Covid-19 is our ability to be outdoors in the fresh air.

#### **Please remember to have your camper pack:**

- a hat
- a rain coat
- sunblock
- bug spray
- a water bottle.

This year, more than ever, we will be out in God's great northwoods!

Fridays. The canteen will be open for in person sales to families and campers on Friday during pick up times, capacity limits for physical distancing will be set based on MDH guidelines. Our online canteen is always open at [www.VLMswag.GiveSmart.com](http://www.VLMswag.GiveSmart.com)

### **Cookouts**

Cookouts away from the dining hall will occur around standard meal times and will be incorporated into the cabin's daily program schedule. Days and times for cookouts will be based on age groups, and coordinated by leadership staff in consultation with kitchen staff. Cabin groups will receive their food and sanitized equipment from leadership staff and will be assigned a cookout location separate from other cabin groups. All members of the cabin who are participating in food preparation, cooking, and serving will be masked and wearing gloves when in contact with food and equipment used for the whole group. All dishes will be cleaned by the group and then receive a final sanitizing in the kitchen dishwasher after the cookout. Leadership will oversee this sanitization process.

### **Overnights**

Overnight camp out experiences will be done as a cabin group. Some nights may have multiple cabin groups on overnight campouts, but each cabin will utilize a separate area. All camping equipment will be sanitized after each use by the cabin group.

Campers will sleep in hammocks, which have a rain fly and bug net. This allows for physical distancing and a maintainable, definable sleeping area for each camper. Non-hammock accommodations (i.e. individual tents) will be available on a case by case basis. In the event of severe weather, campers will be evacuated to their cabin and will follow normal severe weather protocol. In the morning, cabin groups will hang their hammocks to dry until after lunch. Hammocks will then be packed up and returned to the equipment room.

### **Meals**

Everyone will gather in their cabin groups outside and physically distant for community announcements and table prayer, and then be dismissed one cabin at a time to go through the serving line. All campers will be physically distanced and masked while in line for food. Buffet lines will be used and VLM staff will be assisting with serving as much as possible and will coordinate the process so that touch points with equipment and time at the buffet are kept to a minimum. All food service staff will be masked and gloved. Once campers have their food, they will exit the dining hall to eat outdoors. Each table will seat only have one cabin group. Drinks will be served family style with a pitcher set on each table by a masked support staff member or the cabin counselor. When the meal is finished, cabin groups will be dismissed one at a time to buss their dishes.

#### In the event of rain during meal time -

**Camp Vermilion** – Cabin groups are still able to eat outside on the covered deck. If the weather prohibits this, cabin groups will be spaced at tables 6 or more feet apart in the dining hall. Capacity will be determined by current state indoor dining capacity limitations. If necessary, cabins will eat in 20-30 minute shifts.

**Camp Hiawatha** - Cabin groups will be spaced at tables 6 or more feet apart in the dining hall. Capacity will be determined by current state indoor dining capacity limitations. If necessary, cabins will eat in 20-30 minute shifts.

#### **Full Camp Community Activities**

All full camp community activities, like campfire and all-camp-games, will include physical distancing protocols and face masks when indoors, and outdoors when singing. Multi-cabin games/activities/campfire will be held outdoors and will limit physical touch (like tagging or holding hands) as much as possible.

1. All common equipment, craft equipment, playground balls, playground equipment, etc. will be sanitized by the cabin counselor and campers before and after use by their cabin.
2. Games such as traditional tag, Capture the Flag, touch football, and Mighty-mighty Scoop Noodle Challenge will be replaced or adapted to limit physical touch.
3. All-camp morning devotions, worships, and evening campfires will be done in outdoor spaces when possible. Masks will be worn anytime multiple cabin groups are gathered and singing. In the event of inclement weather, indoor singing will be done on a limited basis with mandatory facemasks and physical distancing.
4. During inclement weather, cabin groups will be assigned an indoor space for the week. If shared space is needed, cabin groups will spread out to allow for physical distancing, and masks will be worn.
5. Emergency situations (severe weather, missing camper, etc.) will continue to be done in accordance with VLM's Emergency Procedures Manual. Wearing facemasks, physically distancing, and proper sanitization will be implemented to the greatest extent possible.

#### **Closing/Camper Pick-Up**

Closing program will look very similar to years past and will be held outdoors if at all possible. If the decision is made to move it indoors, wearing facemasks, physically distancing, and proper sanitization will be implemented to the greatest extent possible.



Parents will be directed by staff to the appropriate area to meet their camper and pick up luggage. Parents will be allowed to walk around camp and/or tour the grounds, but will need to remain outside (except for designated bathroom use and the canteen). Following their time at camp, camper families will receive an email from VLM asking families to report to VLM if camper(s) developed any Covid-19 related symptoms or had a positive Covid test result in the ten days after their time at camp.

### **Family Camp**

Each family will be considered their own cohort and operate similarly to cabin groups. When campers are indoors with others outside their family group they will need to wear a mask and maintain physical distancing from other campers. Families are expected to remain on campus during the entirety of the camp week.

Families will be assigned housing for the week. Those living in the Retreat Center will be given designated space, including bathroom, and are encouraged to limit time spent in any community space. No one but the assigned family is allowed in that space.

Age group activities, such as morning Bible Study/Rubbaboo, will be done outside if at all possible.

Families will sign up for activities and spaces each evening for the next day. These includes, but are not limited to, waterfront, sauna, basketball court, Gaga Ball, playground equipment, and crafts. Shared equipment will need to be sanitized before and after use.

Face masks will be required anytime a person is in a public indoor facility that is not their assigned lodging, anytime physical distancing cannot be maintained between people outside their family group, or whenever singing. Meals and meal time will be done in the same fashion as cabin groups during a programmed week. (Refer to the meal section under camp life/onsite camp protocols.)

### **Voyageur Canoe Country**

Canoe trip groups based out of Camp Vermilion are expected to follow the same pre-arrival screening protocol as campers and will have a parent (or self) signed Covid-19 Camper Health Acknowledgement (see below) for each participant at the time of arrival. The pre-arrival documents will be emailed to the trip organizer/church by June 1, 2021. Participants will adhere to the mandatory “facemasks while indoors” rule when in public (non-residential) areas in camp.

Each church or family group that travels together will be treated as a single group or cohort and will be housed together and eat together. Because canoe groups are a small, isolated group that have completed

the pre-arrival acknowledgement and have traveled together, masks will not be required when in your assigned housing space at camp, in a vehicle together, or on trail.

### **Upon arrival at Camp Vermilion,**

Canoe trip participants will remain in their vehicle until greeted by a staff member and all signed pre-arrival acknowledgements are collected. **PLEASE NOTE:** Canoe country participants will not be allowed to enter the site if a participant(s) does not have a signed Covid-19 camper health acknowledgement. In the event that a waiver is not signed or submitted, parents/guardians will be contacted to complete this and submit it electronically. The trip group will wait outside and away from staff, until that document is received and confirmed.

Once the full group has been checked in, the staff will escort trip participants to their assigned housing (generally Voyageur Lodge or the Bakk House). These residential spaces will only be accessed by their group and trip guide - at no time (other than an emergency situation) will other trip groups, campers, or guests access these spaces when the assigned group is on site. If maintenance or custodial staff are required to be in the space, they will use appropriate PPE and cleaning protocols. Canoe groups will not be allowed to leave any personal items in their assigned housing as the space will be cleaned, potentially used, and cleaned again if needed, before their return.

### **When on-site**

Prior to and after being in the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness (BWCAW), canoe trip groups will be limited to their residential space. Trip groups are asked to remain in their assigned space unless accompanied by their guide. On site meals will be eaten outdoors, following the same procedure as all in-camp meals, and scheduled to avoid contact with in-camp programming. Opening and closing worship will generally occur at the Lakeside fire ring and, if multiple churches/groups are present, spacing and masks will be utilized as possible.

### **While in the BWCAW**

Each trip group (9 or less) will adhere to the policies of the USFS and VLM as laid out in their orientation prior to departure. Group housing will consist of gender separated tents with canoe guides sleeping in their own issued tent or hammock. Meals and cleaning procedures on trail will be as per VLM policy and practice with special attention to ensuring all members of the group are adhering to the proper hand washing and sanitizing techniques. At no time will used utensils, cups, plates, or cooking equipment be shared between participants. If transferring of vehicles to other exit points is needed, those VLM staff/volunteers will be masked and use a sanitizing wipe on all touched surfaces before and after their time in the private vehicle.

If a trip participant exhibits Covid-19 symptoms while on the trip, the trip guide will inform the Camp Vermilion Program Director via satellite phone and the entire group will immediately make their way to

the nearest exit point. During the return, the symptomatic individual will remain masked at all times and refrain from interacting with other participants and equipment. The remainder of the group will practice good hygiene and physical distancing as much as possible. Once back at site, the entire group and all staff that worked with the group, will remain isolated from others in camp and VLM's Positive Covid Case Protocols (see below) will be engaged.

### **Upon returning to Camp Vermilion**

Each trip will clean, sanitize, and dry their trip gear. For soft goods (packs, PFDs, tents) these items will be wiped down with a damp, soapy cloth as needed, cleaned of any debris and placed in the drying rack for a minimum of 24 hours. Paddles and canoes will be left outside (near their respective storage areas) for a minimum of 24 hours before being returned to their storage space. Cookware will be cleaned in outdoor sinks by canoe groups. The Trip Guide will then schedule a time with the kitchen to run cookware through the kitchen dishwasher. The trip guide is responsible for the final steps of the cleaning and storing process.

## **Staff**

### **Before their arrival**

Summer staff are expected to follow the same pre-arrival check for symptoms and will submit a signed Covid-19 Health Acknowledgement upon arrival. Monthly staff Zoom meetings for all who have a signed contract will be held to communicate any Covid policy changes/updates, to share some pre-training information/videos/links, mental health care, and to build a community that can support each other while addressing any concerns, fears, or issues that may arise.

VLM is working with local health care agencies to provide testing and vaccines as able for our staff as they arrive. This will help us establish a baseline for training and help increase our protections as we move into staff training.

### **During the summer**

As part of their summer contract and training, all of our summer and year-round staff are committing to a way of life and behavior when off site. Staff will be paying attention to the public areas that they encounter and will be self-assessing each week to check for any Covid-19 symptoms.

### **Staff Housing**

Staff will be assigned housing at Camp Vermilion with intentional house groupings that disperse support, leadership, and counseling staff throughout each cabin. No adjustments to travel between sites should be needed.

### **Weekends/Time Off**

All Covid-19 precautions and policies will remain in place during weekend and sabbath time. This includes

but is not limited to mask wearing indoors, physical distancing, only entering assigned lodging spaces, limiting indoor activities, etc.

Off-site travel on weekends will only be allowed and staff will be trusted to take all necessary precautions and follow good Covid-19 protocols while offsite. Staff will sign off on an off-site behavioral agreement as part of staff training and be responsible to continue to do self-assessments. The penalty for non-compliance of this and other policies is outlined in the staff manual. Blatant disregard for Covid safety protocols will result in immediate dismissal.

Staff sabbath time and weekend time off is a sacred space and is needed for personal renewal. We encourage staff to maximize self-care during these times. While leadership staff will provide a variety of weekend activities and events, we also expect each staff member to care for themselves in the way they need. Weekend activities will be intentionally scheduled for staff using a “weekend camp schedule” that is focused on community building, renewal, rest, and engaging staff in new ways. Leadership will develop the schedule (and adjust with input from staff) and oversee any off-site opportunities.

### **Summer Guests/Activity Leaders**

Pastors, youth directors, and other volunteering adults who are coming to spend time on site with campers will need to provide the same health acknowledgement form and will be asked to remain on-site as much as possible during their stay. Any residential visitor that plans to visit different cabins will need to be masked, ensure proper physical distance, and practice hand washing/sanitizing between cabin groups. They will be housed individually/separately as a person or family. They may only join with one cabin group per meal/activity and will be masked as necessary.

Non-residential volunteers or VLM staff (year-round and summer hourly) will need to check-in with the Program Director or Health Care Manager upon arrival. If any symptoms presented, they will be asked to leave the site immediately. Non-residential volunteers/staff will remain masked at all times except when eating or drinking, practice proper hand hygiene, keep the appropriate physical distance at all times, and will utilize cabin counselors for any hands-on direction/assistance when working with campers. Activity leaders must sanitize all equipment and materials before and after each group.

Year-round, residential VLM staff (and families) will abide by all current VLM Covid-19 protocols and will be asked to limit their contact with the summer program to essential functions. This must be done physically distanced and with a facemask at all times.

## **Cleaning and Sanitization**

VLM will continue to use appropriate and certified cleaning products that are both antiviral and antibacterial as labeled and approved by the CDC and other governmental agencies. This includes hand soaps, cleaning detergents, sanitizers, and disinfectants. All campers and staff will have regular access to hand washing and/or hand sanitizing supplies. Cabin counselors and health care staff will carry hand sanitizers with them at all times. Staff will review and maintain supply levels of all cleaning supplies, equipment, and dispensers daily. Staff will be trained on the camp's enhanced Covid-19 cleaning and disinfecting procedures. The specific procedures and schedules are outlined in the VLM Covid Preparedness Plan that is available to read on the website [www.vlmcamps.org/covid-safety](http://www.vlmcamps.org/covid-safety).

## **Food Service**

In camp food service will be done using safety protocols in line with MDH standards and state government mandates. In the event of inclement weather, mealtimes will be staggered, if necessary, to maintain physical distancing for indoor dining. For indoor dining, open windows and the exhaust system will be used to maximize air circulation. When campers or staff are in the dining hall they will wear masks except for when actively eating. Staff that are not actively counseling or helping with meals will be assigned a specific table and/or meal time separate from camper meal times. All meals will be served by staff. Gloves and masks will be worn by all persons handling dishes and food. Any items needed for a meal that cannot be picked up in the serving line will be brought to the table by the cabin group counselor or a masked and gloved support staff member. Campers will eat their meals by cabin group, with one cabin per table, which will be distanced from other cabin groups. Cabin groups will be dismissed individually to both get their food and also to buss their dishes. Campers will maintain a 6-foot separation when in the serving line as well as when they return their dirty dishes. Camper groups will clean their table; Kitchen staff will disinfect tables between use/after each meal.

## **Positive Covid Case Protocols**

In the event that someone (staff, camper, volunteer) on site develops Covid symptoms, they will be brought to the Health Care Center for further observation. A camper's family (or staff member's family if necessary) will be notified, and the individual will be sent home if the symptoms don't resolve in an hour. If after an hour, the symptomatic individual is unable to leave the site immediately, they will remain isolated in the summer Health Care Center until transportation has been secured. (The Health Care Center is maintained by the Health Care Coordinator, has no public access, and is sanitized between campers).

Symptomatic individuals/camper families will be asked to report any COVID-19 test results to the site Program Director once they receive those results. The presence of a symptomatic individual and/or

confirmed positive Covid-19 test will be shared confidentiality with the families of any camper, staff, or community member who may have been exposed.

Once the symptomatic individual has left the site, the Health Care Coordinator along with the site Program Director will oversee the sanitization of those areas and surfaces that have been recently used by the individual. This may include a sleeping area, bathroom facilities, tools, play equipment, work surfaces, etc. Daily monitoring of everyone on site will continue to be done.

In the event that there is a larger outbreak of symptomatic individuals or positive cases (greater than two cases in the same day), the site Program Director will work with the Executive Director and local county health officials to establish an in-place quarantine at the site. During that time, visitors to the site will be limited to local and MDH professionals. Communications will be handled by the VLM Executive and Operational Directors, and direct phone communications will be made to camper families, staff, and any volunteers by the state contact tracing protocols.

## **Conclusion**

This preparedness plan is subject to change as conditions change or recommendations from the State of Minnesota Department of Health and/or CDC. We appreciate everyone's patience with and adherence to these guidelines. Although there is no way to make camp risk free of Covid-19 infection, we believe these mitigation efforts will provide significant safeguards to prevent an outbreak from occurring. Further mitigation specifics are detailed in the VLM Covid Preparedness Plan. All staff members are expected to become familiar with these and new procedures, as well as our standard policies and procedures, as we develop, train, and disseminate additional and more specific mitigations standards that may become necessary.

