



Guidance for Homeless Shelters For Residents or Staff Who Test Positive for COVID-19

Michigan.gov/Coronavirus

This guidance is intended to provide general guidelines for shelter residents and staff when someone tests positive for COVID-19.

If there is a positive COVID-19 case in a shelter staff person

Leadership staff from that shelter may be notified by the local health department about next steps and recommendations, such as those listed below. While this event may seem alarming, it can be managed with appropriate cleaning, social distancing, and regular monitoring of shelter staff and residents.

- Staff who are sick should stay home and contact their primary care provider with any questions regarding symptoms and possible testing.
- Staff at the shelter should self-monitor for fever by taking their temperature twice a day and remaining alert for respiratory symptoms (e.g., cough, shortness of breath, sore throat). If no symptoms present, they may continue to work but all people in the shelter should be encouraged to wear a cloth face covering. For more information please see the CDC guidance [Use of Cloth Face Coverings to Help Slow the Spread of COVID-19](#).

- Staff should check temperatures twice daily for 14 days after the exposure date with the COVID-19 positive individual, otherwise once daily at minimum.
- Per CDC guidance, COVID-19 symptoms may appear 2-14 days after exposure. The symptoms are:
 - Fever over 100.4° F
 - Cough
 - Shortness of breath

If there is a positive COVID-19 case in a recent shelter resident

- Shelter residents' temperature should be monitored twice daily for 14 days after the exposure date with the COVID-19 positive individual, otherwise once daily at minimum.
- Follow social distancing as much as possible, with at least 6 feet between residents and staff. All people in the shelter should be encouraged to wear a cloth face covering.
- Any shelter resident who is symptomatic should be isolated from other residents per the current protocols at the facility.
- The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services advises against testing of any asymptomatic individuals with or without an exposure to COVID-19.

How to clean and disinfect following a positive COVID-19 case

- Follow Interim Guidance for [US Institutions of Higher Education](#) on working with state and local health officials to isolate ill persons and provide temporary housing as needed.
- Close off areas visited by the ill persons. Open outside doors and windows and use ventilating fans to increase air circulation in the area. Wait 24 hours or as long as practical before beginning cleaning and disinfection.
- In areas where ill persons are being housed in isolation, follow [Interim Guidance for Environmental Cleaning and Disinfection for U.S. Households with Suspected or Confirmed Coronavirus Disease 2019](#). This includes focusing on cleaning and disinfecting common areas where staff/others providing services may come into contact with ill persons but reducing cleaning and disinfection of bedrooms/bathrooms used by ill persons to as-needed.
- In areas where ill persons have visited or used, continue routine cleaning and disinfection as in this guidance.