



Quick Guide: Outreach Teams - Staying Safe During Respiratory Season Homeless Health Infectious Disease (HHID)

General Guidance

Outreach teams connecting with the community throughout the winter months are encouraged to:

- Wear appropriate clothing for the weather forecast - “bundle up” if necessary!
 - Several layers of loose fitting, lightweight, warm clothing will provide **more protection** than one layer of heavy clothing.
- Utilize a hat and / or head covering.
 - Heat loss is proportional to the amount of exposed surface area of the body.
- Utilize gloves and scarves for additional protection.
 - Scarves can be used to protect the lungs from cold wind exposure that may lead to irritation and / or cough.
- Stay as dry as possible.
 - **Water resistant outerwear** acts as the best protection for cold and precipitate conditions.
- Utilize proper footwear (socks / boots/ shoes) as appropriate.



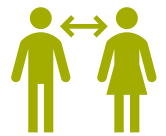
Teams are **highly** encouraged to review stress management and coping resources following outreach shifts!

Interacting with unsheltered individuals and families:



- Never “sneak up” or “corner” someone.
 - Respect the person(s) personal space, physical space where they live, and the community in which they live.

- Greet person(s) from a distance of 3-6 feet.
 - Teams are encouraged to maintain distance throughout conversation for visibly symptomatic persons or those who report symptomatic.



- Clearly identify yourself and your agency.
 - Example: “Hello, my name is (**insert name**) and I am with (**insert agency**).”
- Conduct “1 Minute Respiratory Symptom Screening” Tool.
 - Respiratory symptom screening aims to identify Influenza Like Illness (ILI) or similar symptom producing respiratory illnesses. (**See below**)
- Maintain good hand hygiene by regularly washing hands or utilizing hand sanitizer throughout the outreach shift. (**See below**)
 - Wear gloves if you come into contact with individual belongings.
- Teams are encouraged to wear a mask if they are unable to keep a 3–6-foot distance from symptomatic persons or those who report symptomatic.
- Provide clients with hygiene products and community resources as available.

Always call 9-1-1 if you suspect an immediate health crisis!



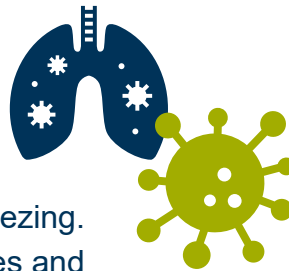
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General Guidance

Respiratory hygiene / cough etiquette

Encourage individuals to:

- Cover their mouth and nose when coughing or sneezing.
- When available – use tissues and throw them away.
- Wash their hands or use hand sanitizer every time they touch their mouth or nose.



- Rub hands together, making sure that all surfaces of hands and fingers are covered.
- Rub hands together until they are dry (usually around 20seconds).
- **Do not rinse or wipe off hand sanitizer before it is dry.**

Hand washing with soap and water

Hand hygiene

Alcohol- based or non-alcohol-based hand sanitizer

- Dispense an amount the size of a quarter directly into the palm of one hand.



- Wet hands first with water.
- Apply soap to hands.
- Rub vigorously for at least 20 seconds, covering all surfaces of hands and fingers.
- Rinse hands with water and dry thoroughly with a paper towel.

1 Minute Respiratory Symptom Screening Tool

Initial Question: “In an effort to keep everyone healthy, we want to start with a few questions about how you’ve been feeling recently.”

Over the past 14 days, have you had any of these symptoms?

1. Dry cough (change from baseline)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
2. Sore throat	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
3. Fever? What may feel / may have felt like a fever?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
4. Close contact with anyone who has COVID-19? (Close contact is defined as any distance less than 6ft for more than 10min)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No

If yes to any question 1-4, outreach worker is encouraged to maintain 3-6 ft distance and / or wear a mask.