



SCARC, Inc. COVID 19 Cloth Mask and Glove Protocol

Please refer to the CDC websites for instruction on how to wear, clean, remove, make cloth masks and frequently asked questions.

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/downloads/DIY-cloth-face-covering-instructions.pdf>

and

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/cloth-face-cover-faq.html>

Staff are to wear the cloth mask **when working in the group home and while out in the community at all times**. Staff may use either the staff's personal mask or the one provided by SCARC. **The mask must cover the mouth and nose. It shouldn't be on the chin or under the nose for "breaks."**

If going to the hospital the Director, AOC or Health and Nursing Care Administrator may recommend a KN95 mask and gloves be worn. Please refer to the IDT for guidance on whether the individual is approved to wear masks and gloves and when.

Each staff mask must be labeled with the staff's name permanently. Staff are to leave their mask whether it be their own or the SCARC provided mask at the group home to be laundered. When washing using a garment bag is preferred then left to air dry in a clean place away from common areas, individuals and SCARC employees.

As for the individuals, because the CDC recommends that those wearing masks should be able to care for it themselves and be able to remove it without assistance, a phone IDT should be held to determine if the team thinks a mask could be worn safely and when it should and should not be worn. **This applies to gloves too.** Group home managers shall tally the amount of masks for the individuals that are needed in their program and report that number to their director.

Impeccable hand hygiene is important. Wash hands thoroughly for at least 20 seconds and frequently as per the previous training. Gloves should be changed in between providing care to different individuals and hands should be washed to prevent transferring potential illness from person to person.

Gloves must be worn by staff following universal precautions at the least. They should be worn while performing tasks such as but not limited to preparing food, handling clean and soiled linens, cleaning and disinfecting, performing direct care to individuals and coming in contact with bodily fluids including respiratory secretions from coughs and sneezes.