

SCARC, Inc. COVID-19 Response - Residential Visitation Protocol

Phase IV

Off-site (unsupervised) and Overnight visits will now be permitted outside of SCARC, Inc. premises, along with previously permitted visitations: Pre-Opening Phase (virtual communication), Phase I, Phase II and Phase III. Please note that this policy will be further adjusted over time as more is learned about the virus and the impact vaccinations have on it. Visits are subject to the requirements and precautions outlined in this document. Violations by individual(s) or visitor(s) will result in staff ending the visit immediately and/or revisiting future visits. Violations will require an Interdisciplinary Team Meeting (IDT) to be held before subsequent visits are permitted in the future.

How long vaccine protection lasts and how much vaccines protect against emerging COVID-19 variants are still under investigation. Until more is known and vaccination coverage increases, some prevention measures will continue to be necessary for all people, regardless of vaccination status. Vaccinated and unvaccinated people should continue to follow guidance to protect themselves and others, including wearing a well-fitted mask meeting CDC criteria, physical distancing (at least 6 feet), avoiding crowds, avoiding poorly ventilated spaces, covering coughs and sneezes, washing hands often, and following any applicable guidance provided by a community setting (i.e restaurant, drive-thru, etc). All persons should still watch for symptoms of COVID-19, especially following an exposure to someone with suspected or confirmed COVID-19. If symptoms develop, all people – regardless of vaccination status – should isolate and be clinically evaluated for COVID-19, including COVID-19 testing, if indicated. All persons should also continue to follow current CDC and NJDOH travel guidance.

Scheduling

All visits will be scheduled with advanced notice with the Residential Program Manager or Assistant Manager.

1. Visitors are currently limited to the individuals approved on the DDD *Guardian Consent for Visitation During the COVID-19 Pandemic* form, in contingent with SCARC, Inc.'s Phase IV Plan. SCARC, Inc. residential program to program visitation shall occur at this time, if approved by both guardians, as noted on the DDD *Guardian Consent for Visitation During the COVID-19 Pandemic* form.
2. Visitors must schedule the visit at least 24 hours in advance with the Residential Manager or Assistant Manager.
3. There are currently no limitations set forth on the amount of visits per week. However, individuals residing in a SCARC, Inc. residential program are expected not to exceed more than 5 percent, or 18 days, of absence from their residential program within the calendar year. If an overage in absences is anticipated by the guardian, or an overage in absences is experienced, the individual's Interdisciplinary Team must hold an Interdisciplinary Team Meeting (IDT) to discuss this further. SCARC, Inc. maintains the right to discontinue residential services for any participant who exceeds 18 days of absenteeism within a calendar year.
4. When scheduling an out of state day or overnight visit (i.e vacation) with an individual outside of the region (New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Connecticut, Delaware), the individual's

Interdisciplinary Team must hold an IDT Meeting to discuss this further. The individual's vaccination status is to be discussed along with COVID-19 precautions, quarantining guidelines (for unvaccinated individuals), destination and the current DOH Travel Advisory etc.

5. Two visitors are allowed to pick up per scheduled time slot (i.e mother and father taking the individual for the off-site or overnight visit).
6. All guardians must complete the *DDD Guardian Consent for Visitation During the COVID-19 Pandemic* form prior to scheduling all visits.
7. The *DDD Visitor Agreement* form must be completed prior to the visit beginning, along with the Mandatory Visitor COVID-19 Screening Tool.
8. SCARC, Inc. will not be providing pens or other writing utensils. All visitors must bring their own pen to complete the Mandatory Visitor COVID-19 Screening Tool and *DDD Visitor Agreement* form.
9. SCARC, Inc. will not be providing face masks and/or face coverings for visitors. Each visitor must bring and wear their own face covering (cloth mask, KN95 mask, N95 mask, surgical mask, gator, etc.) that covers their nose and mouth for the entire duration of the pick-up or drop off.

All of the following criteria must be met for a visit to be considered:

1. Visits shall only occur when there have been no individuals or staff of the home who have tested positive for COVID-19 in the last 14 consecutive days or are currently displaying symptoms. *Should a new positive case be identified, visitation within the residential program shall be suspended until 14 days have passed.*
2. If a staff member tests negative for COVID-19 and may return to work, as determined by their health care provider, CHRO and Health and Nursing Care Administrator or designee, visits may resume. If an individual is treated for another illness or symptom, unrelated to COVID-19, visits can still continue, as determined by the Health and Nursing Care Administrator or designee.
3. To the best of their knowledge, no individual, current staff of the home or person(s) planning to visit with the individual have been in close contact (within approximately 6 feet of a person with confirmed COVID-19 for more than 15 minutes total within 24 hours starting from 2 days before illness onset (or, for asymptomatic patients, 2 days prior to test specimen collection) until the time the patient is isolated, and/or caring for or visiting the person, having unprotected direct contact with infectious secretions or excretions of the patient) within the last 14 days with someone who recently tested positive for COVID-19 (i.e. in the past two weeks).
4. If a 14 day quarantine is not possible based on behavioral or physical limitations outlined in the Individualized COVID-19 Plan, management is to discuss this with the Health and Nursing Care Administrator or designee and follow the alternative protocol approved by the Health and Nursing Care Administrator or designee for the program in this instance.

Pre-Visit

1. Visits can occur at an agreed upon location outside of the group home, this shall be discussed prior to with the Residential Manager or Assistant Manager.

2. Visitors are currently limited to the individuals approved on the DDD *Guardian Consent for Visitation During the COVID-19 Pandemic* form.
3. Visitors must participate in completing the Mandatory Visitor COVID-19 Screening Tool before being permitted to meet with the individual. Each program will be equipped with the following: Mandatory Visitor COVID-19 Screening Tool, DDD *Visitor Agreement* form, clip board, thermometer, alcohol wipes and hand sanitizer. The thermometer needs to be cleaned with a 70% or above alcohol solution or an alcohol wipe.
4. All guardians must complete the DDD *Guardian Consent for Visitation During the COVID-19 Pandemic* form prior to scheduling all visits.
5. The DDD *Visitor Agreement* form must be completed prior to the visit beginning and the individual being taken off premises.
6. Visitors must bring their own mask. Visitors must put on their mask prior to exiting their vehicle and meet the staff and individuals in the designated screening area. Visitors are to complete the Mandatory Visitor COVID-19 Screening Tool and DDD *Visitor Agreement* form.
7. Each individual visitor must complete their own separate Mandatory Visitor COVID-19 Screening Tool and DDD *Visitor Agreement* form. It is NOT one per family. The visitor's temperature will be taken and screening questions will be completed by each visitor themselves (99.9 F is the maximum temperature allowed). Staff must set the thermometer prior to the visit to 99.9 F. Staff will instruct visitors on how to take their temperature. Staff will instruct visitors on how to clean and disinfect the thermometer utilizing alcohol wipes provided by SCARC, Inc. all while maintaining social distancing. SCARC, Inc. will not be providing pens or other writing utensils. **All visitors must bring their own pen to complete the Mandatory Visitor COVID-19 Screening Tool and DDD Visitor Agreement form.**
8. Visitors will complete the Mandatory Visitor COVID-19 Screening Tool and *DDD Visitor Agreement* form and wait for staff to either approve or deny the visit based on their responses.
9. Any visitor who has traveled outside the New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Connecticut or Delaware must indicate this when completing the Mandatory Visitor COVID-19 Screening Tool.
10. For international travel, the federal requirement for testing upon return to the United States still stands for both unvaccinated and fully vaccinated travelers, therefore, a copy of a **NEGATIVE** COVID-19 test must be provided prior to the scheduled visit, regardless of vaccination status.
11. Visitors who indicate they are vaccinated at the time of screening must provide the Vaccination Card for review to the person completing the Mandatory Visitor COVID-19 Screening Tool. Those unable to do so should be considered of unvaccinated status by the person completing the Mandatory Visitor COVID-19 Screening Tool. Failure to pass the Mandatory Visitor COVID-19 Screening Tool with unvaccinated entrance standards will result in not permitting the visitor to enter the SCARC, Inc. program or conduct a visit with an individual served by SCARC, Inc.
12. If the an unvaccinated visitor completing the Mandatory Visitor COVID-19 Screening Tool indicates they have visited a state outside of the region (New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Connecticut, Delaware) in past 10 days and were at their destination for more than 24 hours from the date of completing the Mandatory Visitor COVID-19 Screening Tool, they are **NOT** permitted to enter a SCARC, Inc. Program or interact with an individual served by SCARC, Inc.

13. If an unvaccinated visitor has traveled outside of the region in the past 10 days and were at their destination for more than 24 hours from the day of completing the Screening Tool, they are **NOT** able to conduct a visit with any individual served by SCARC, Inc. until the 10-day quarantine period has passed and they are free of illness.
14. When completing the Mandatory Visitor COVID-19 Screening Tool, transit through the state to another destination, provided that the time spent in the state is only the amount of time necessary to complete the transit, make use of travel services, such as a highway rest stop, or make necessary travel connections, should not be counted as travel requiring restriction from a SCARC, Inc. program.
15. Once staff have approved the visitors, the individual will be escorted off SCARC, Inc. premises by their visitor(s).

During Visit

1. Physical distancing (being at least 6 feet apart) is still recommended between the visitor and individual being visited. This continues to be the safest way to prevent the spread of COVID-19, particularly if either party has not been fully vaccinated. However, it is acknowledged that there is no substitute for physical contact, such as the warm embrace between an individual and their loved one. Therefore, and regardless of vaccination status, the individual can choose to have close contact (including touch) with their visitor while wearing a well-fitting facemask (if tolerated).
2. Each individual is to wear a facemask (cloth mask or surgical mask), when outside in the community, traveling or when visiting with visitors who do not live in their household, as recommended by the CDC.
3. When picking up or dropping off the individual, each visitor must bring and wear their own face covering (cloth mask, KN95 mask, N95 mask, surgical mask, gator, etc.) that covers their nose and mouth for the entire duration.
 - SCARC, Inc. will not be providing face coverings, masks, etc. to visitors.

Post-Visit

1. Regardless of vaccination status, SCARC, Inc. is required to screen all individuals who are returning to a licensed residential facility from community outings and visits with families or any outing outside of the residence for symptoms of COVID-19.
2. This includes taking and recording their temperature on the SCARC, Inc. Monthly Individual Temperature Tracking Record (10.27.2020).
3. If screening takes place inside the residence, it should be done before the individual interacts with other individuals.
4. If they are showing symptoms and/or fever, they should be immediately isolated away from other individuals and a healthcare professional immediately consulted to determine if further isolation and/or COVID-19 testing is needed.
5. Staff are to assist the individual with completing the *Mandatory Visitor COVID-19 Screening Tool*. The visitor dropping the individual off needs to complete one as well.

6. If symptoms are felt to be immediately life-threatening, 911 shall be called.
7. Once the individual passes the *Mandatory Visitor COVID-19 Screening Tool*, they will be prompted and assisted to shower.
8. The individual's clothing shall be laundered by staff and SCARC, Inc. Bed Bug Protocol is to be followed.
9. **All visitors agree to notify the Residential Program if someone they have been in close contact with (within approximately 6 feet of a person with confirmed COVID-19 for more than 15 minutes total within 24 hours starting from 2 days before illness onset (or, for asymptomatic patients, 2 days prior to test specimen collection) until the time the patient is isolated, and/or caring for or visiting the person, having unprotected direct contact with infectious secretions or excretions of the patient), tests positive for or exhibits symptoms of COVID-19 within 14 days of the visit.**

Regardless of vaccination status for the individual, the individual or their guardian may request an off-site visit with a family member or friend, such as an overnight visit to a family member's home or other daytime outing and **not have to isolate upon return** to the residential setting **unless he or she, or the person returning them from their visit, report exposure (15 or more cumulative minutes within 24-hours) to someone with suspected or confirmed COVID-19.**