



UPDATES FOR LEXINGTON LEADERS

September 16, 2021

A leader is best when
people barely know
he exists, when his
work is done, his aim
fulfilled, they will say:
we did it ourselves.

—LAO TZU



COVID-19 AT LEXINGTON

- There are thankfully no people we support who are currently positive - great news!
- There are a number of employees who are positive, but again, thankfully, none have severe symptoms and are recovering. We currently have COVID precautions at Krumkill, Rapp Road, and Pinewood to prevent spread. We consider the current situation at the agency contained and under control.

COVID-19 IN THE COMMUNITY

- As of 8/13, the 7-day rolling average of positive cases: Fulton 6.2% (8.8% on 9/12) | Schoharie 4.9% (12.5% on 9/12) | Albany 4.5% (6.0% on 9/12)

VACCINATIONS AT LEXINGTON

- 97.1% of people who live in our homes are vaccinated / total people we support (residential and community) 82%
- Lexington staff who have received the first dose of the vaccine - total of 69% Schoharie 74% | Fulton 70% | Albany 48%

Current Vaccine Availability: *Attached here* is a list of COVID-19 vaccines and their availability in our three counties and in our region.

TOWN HALL MEETING/Q&A with Dr. Kevin Cope and Kathy Kane

Here is a recording of the September 1 Town Hall Meeting with Dr. Cope. Please view and share with your staff: <https://youtu.be/kvWE8d4ohGo>

UPDATE ON COVID-19 GUIDANCE, POLICIES, AND PROCEDURES

We have made some minor adjustments to our COVID Guidelines - Chart Overview and to our COVID Safety Checklist. Both now provide clarity about what signs are required to be displayed on our exterior doors. In addition, we've modified the PPE signs for our exterior doors in an effort to simplify. We now have ONE version to be used at all Lexington properties. Please replace current signs with the 9/2/21 version below.

Any other signs that are currently on the exterior doors of the sites you oversee should be removed, or if required by other standards they should be professionally displayed. Should anyone have questions about any of this information they should contact their immediate supervisor.

FORMS

- *PPE Signage all buildings, 9/2/21*
- *COVID-19 Guidelines Reference Chart, 9/2/21 - form can also be found in GRP425>COVID Material>P&P folder*
- *COVID-19 Safety Checklist, 9/2/21 - can also be found in the same location as Reference Chart*

Managers COVID-19 Support Line: (518) 774-2073

IMPORTANT REMINDER: It is important for all managers to contact this Managers COVID-19 Support Line for any employee issue related to COVID. This resource was used so well during our previous COVID outbreak but is not being used consistently at this time. We need to go back to using all the COVID protocols that were established previously so all COVID matters are centralized and communicated to all who need to know. It also helps us catch any COVID employee-related matter and allows us to let nothing "slip through the cracks" which is important to containing the spread of COVID-19 at Lexington.

- The Support Line is open 7 days a week, Monday-Friday 8 AM to 6 PM, and on weekends during business hours.
 - Outside of these hours, you may still leave messages or texts at the phone number or email information to covid@thearclexington.org.
 - Please include ALL pertinent information in ONE communication when you call or email the hotline - employee name, contact number, date he/she last worked and at what location.
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Updated Medical Policies

Both of the following policies were updated to reflect our current practices. There is no change in our process rather our policies were outdated. Both of these policies go in the Medical Policy Manual and the Exposure Control Plan book.

Linked here are these updated Medical Policies:

I114 Infection Control Policy: Reporting and Management of Occupational Blood Exposures and

I117 Infection Control Policy: Management of Exposure to Blood or Body Fluids of Significant Risk

UPCOMING TENT MEETINGS

Here is the new schedule for tent meetings - they include NURTURING ENVIRONMENT MEETINGS, RECOGNITION EVENTS, AND MANAGEMENT MEETINGS. Please RSVP to Rene Craig for both: CraigR@theardlexington.org, (518) 775-5429

*****PLEASE NOTE: We will be recognizing LEXINGTON CHAMPIONS at the Nurturing Environment Meetings so PLEASE NOMINATE staff in this Workplace group as soon as you can!**

FULTON COUNTY - Paul Nigra Center for Creative Arts

Monday, 9/27 - Management Meeting 10am

Tuesday, 9/28 - Nurturing Environment Meeting 10am | Management Meeting 2pm

Wednesday, 9/29 - Nurturing Environment Meeting 1pm

SCHOHARIE COUNTY - 121 Opportunity Drive

Tuesday, 10/5 - Nurturing Environment 10am | Management Meeting 2pm

Dear Lexington Leaders,

It's National Direct Support Professional Recognition Week - THANK YOU for all you are doing/have done to celebrate these staff members who truly are the backbone of our agency. They deserve to be celebrated all year long, but we appreciate all you do for them during this important week.

We send our heartfelt condolences to all those whose lives were touched by Eric Hastings, who many of you know passed away last weekend. We especially are keeping the family at 65 Grand Street in our hearts at this challenging time. He was devoted to his family, both at Lexington and his own. We also grieve for his son, his siblings and extended family in their sorrow and wish them strength as they experience his upcoming services and celebration of life. Thank you for understanding our need to pause our DSP Week events as we took time to remember and honor Eric.

As you can see, we have scheduled a number of upcoming meetings in tents at the Nigra Arts Center and in Schoharie. It's important that we see one another face to face as we recognize our loyal, dedicated, hardworking employees and their years of exemplary service. As well, we think it's important to also continue our Nurturing Environment meetings, especially as our Schoharie family is just starting to learn about them and the importance of the program to our agency.

It seems that challenges keep coming at us, when we least expect it. But this team ALWAYS rises to meet them, and exceed them. Thank you for all you do. We know it has not been easy and we appreciate your devotion to your staff and the people we support.

Shaloni & Dan

This newsletter will be archived at the following link:
<https://thearclexington.org/lex-leaders-covid-updates>
