

St. Vincent de Paul

COVID-19 Safety Precautions & Protocols

5.13.20

At SVdP, we are committed to our mission of feeding, clothing, housing, and healing the most vulnerable members of our community. We are equally committed to providing the safest possible environment for our guests, volunteers, and staff. Our commitments have led us to enhance our safety measures to make sure SVdP remains a pillar that can be counted on to serve, especially during this pandemic.

Precautions & Procedures Implemented

- All of our dining rooms, the Hall of Banners, and The Diane and Bruce Halle Center for Hope and Healing have been outfitted with UV Light Filters to purify the air. The equipment kills any and all bacteria and viruses that come through our air systems immediately and also charge the air coming through the vents which helps sanitize anything in the rooms.
- Every facility has a very specific protocol for sanitizing surfaces like table tops, door knobs, railing etc. in conjunction with the most stringent recommendations from the CDC. We are using a product that has been proven to kill all viruses, including COVID-19 within 2 minutes.
- Sanitizing backpacks are in use that allow any facility with showers to be sanitized in minutes.
- Twelve portable hand washing stations have been rented and distributed throughout our facilities and signs are posted encouraging use of the stations.
- The Resource Center and Ozanam Manor have provided guests and residents with masks, and are able to launder them on a regular basis. Temperatures of guests and residents are taken daily.
- Staff and volunteers are asked to engage in new procedures including wearing masks, having their temperature taken, wearing gloves when needed, maintaining social distancing, washing and sanitizing hands and more. These are outlined below.

Important Reminders for Staff & Volunteers

- Screening questions and thermometers are in place in all facilities and all staff members and volunteers are screened when they arrive. Anybody displaying symptoms and/or a temperature of 100.4 or greater are asked not to enter the building and are given instructions on contacting a medical provider and self-isolation.
- Masks are to be properly worn (covering mouth and nose) at all times by staff and volunteers within SVdP facilities. The only time a mask is not needed is when a person is eating or they are alone in an office. Signage on appropriate mask-wearing has been distributed and posted in English and Spanish.
- Appropriate social distancing is expected by all. The most impactful thing we can do to prevent the spread of COVID-19 is to remain 6 feet apart at all times.
- Please wash hands and re-sanitize them in-between washings.
- Some areas require gloves and hairnets – please ensure you are following specific guidelines and understand proper glove-wearing procedures (eg, don't touch your phone or face while wearing gloves if you're working with food!).

Please remember that all of the safety measures in the world will not replace the importance of physical distancing. Be mindful of where you're spending your time and minimize visits to crowded areas. Your health and well-being are important! Together we can continue to keep the virus at bay and keep our guests, staff, and volunteers safe.