

# RITE NOW @ ROP

## ROP's Response to COVID-19 (Coronavirus)

Rite of Passage is committed to the health and safety of our staff and the youth in our care, and will continue to deliver critical services to vulnerable youth. We are an essential service provider by state and federal definitions and are authorized to operate during this pandemic.

During these unprecedented times, Rite of Passage's top priority remains the health, safety and welfare of every staff member and every youth in our care. We are also committed to keeping our stakeholders informed about our COVID-19 related practices and precautions, which we have implemented to ensure we operate the cleanest, safest and healthiest programs possible.

ROP continues to monitor CDC, local, state, and federal recommendations and to implement best practices. Our agency is also working diligently with our Health Authority consultant, Paul Adler; D.O., F.A.C.E.P., M.B.A., C.H.C.Q.M., to ensure these recommendations and best practices are effectively integrated into safely operated programs.

To date, we have implemented the following actions:

- Established a COVID-19 task force of executive committee members that meets daily to share information, address staff needs and feedback, make decisions, and provide resources for staff to perform their jobs.
- Established weekly consultation with Dr. Adler regarding ROP's medical policies, procedures and best practices. As a medical expert in residential settings, Dr. Adler is available 24-hours per day/7 days per week for infectious disease case consultations.
- Provided training, education and materials to youth and staff based on CDC guidelines and recommendations; including strict social distancing practices, frequent hand washing, stringent hygiene practices, and an increase in sanitizing and cleaning frequency.
- Successfully negotiated with our supply chains to ensure adequate reserves of food, medicine, sanitation and cleaning supplies are available at each site.
- Ensured a continuity of programming and services-including education and therapy-to maintain a level of normalcy for our youth while adhering to all guidelines regarding social distancing and increased hygiene and sanitation practices.

ROP has also modified operational policies to maximize strict adherence to social distancing protocol, including decreasing close contact with people and limiting gatherings. To date, ROP has:

- Limited community contact by restricting access to essential services and staff only. A single point of entry has been established; all visitors are logged and their locations are tracked.
- Implemented a staff screening instrument to ensure daily temperatures and health questionnaires are completed prior to entering an ROP facility.
- Established admissions screening to ensure new admissions receive a health screen by their placing agency or by ROP medical staff or designee prior to admission.
- Restricted community outings, including youth work and community service. Home pass policies follow placing agency guidelines, and have been postponed or limited to those with mental health needs. Video conferencing and phone contacts are readily available.

In this rapidly changing time, we will continue to provide transparent, open communication; we also encourage you to continue to communicate with us. Please refer to the Rite of Passage website ([www.riteofpassage.com](http://www.riteofpassage.com)) to read additional up-to-the-minute information regarding our COVID-19 response.