

memo

memo no: 865
to: All Lifebridge Staff and Volunteers
from: Shelley Scorrano, Senior Manager, Community Services
date: 15 February 2023
subject: COVID-19 Response Update – 15-2-2023

Hi everyone,

I am writing as a reminder to all staff to remain vigilant and follow correct protocols with regard to COVID.

Mask wearing - All Community Support Workers should wear a surgical mask covering their nose and mouth whilst providing in-home care. This is particularly important at times of high community transmission. A staff member may remove their mask:

- while communicating with another person who is deaf or hard of hearing.
- if wearing a mask creates a risk to health and safety.
- where clear enunciation or visibility of your mouth is essential.
- if they are working in an indoor area and there is no other person in the area.

Anyone removing a mask for one of these reasons should remain 1.5 metres from others, particularly in indoor communal areas. Staff performing DA services can remove their mask providing social distancing with the customer is maintained. Staff and participants should not attend if they have tested positive to COVID-19, have any COVID-19 symptoms, or have been in close contact with someone who has COVID-19.

When performing work or activities with customers, staff should maintain COVID-19 safe practices including:

- wear a mask when indoors as applicable.
- regular use of alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
- maintain a distance of at least 1.5 meters from other people.

Staff should not provide a home care service if they:

- Have tested positive for COVID-19. Staff **should not provide a home care service** for 7 days after their positive test and must not return to work until symptom free.
- Have been in close contact with someone who has COVID-19
- Have acute respiratory or influenza-like symptoms.
- Essential services **WILL** still be provided to customers with the CSW using correct PPE.

Customers should not attend groups if they have symptoms. Our vaccination policy remains 2+1 and staff are strongly encouraged to receive the 2023 booster as recommended by the Department of Health. If anyone has any further questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me. Also please ensure all COVID cases are reported to reception, rosters and myself (you can email me).

Thank you for all you do.

Shelley Scorrano
Senior Manager, Community Services