NovusWay Summer Camp Covid-19 Protocols (version 04.22.22)

Preface

1. Protocols are active as of May 6, 2022, and are subject to be adjusted based on changing conditions by the NovusWay Covid Task Force. NovusWay will place updated copies online at novusway.org/summer2022 if conditions warrant.
2. For these protocols, we define a fever as a temperature of 100.4 or above. We define the symptoms of Covid-19 as:
    A. Fever or chills
    B. New cough
    C. Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
    D. Fatigue
    E. Muscle and body aches
    F. New loss of taste or smell
    G. Sore throat
    H. Congestion or runny nose
    I. Headache
    J. Nausea or vomiting
    K. Diarrhea
3. In consultation with the CEO of NovusWay, the Executive Director and Program Directors at Lutheridge, Lutheranch, Luther Springs, and Lutherock maintain the right to adapt these protocols specific to their site and program.
4. When the state or local health department guidelines are stricter than the protocol in this document, those guidelines shall supersede this document.
5. These protocols are based upon recommendations from the American Camp Association (ACA) and the Centers for Disease Control (CDC).
6. Campers, guests, or staff who do not adhere to these protocols after being informed of them may be asked to leave the site without a refund.

Introduction

At NovusWay Camps, Lutheridge, Lutherock, Luther Springs, and Lutheranch, one of our foundational goals in the summer of 2022 is to provide a healthy and safe place where campers, guests, and staff can gather in community in God's good creation. To do this, we will work together to **arrive healthy** to camp, **remain healthy** while at camp, and **maintain healthy** environments for

future campers and guests. Guidance for this summer will be based on the CDC county transmission levels where the camps are located and where the majority of campers are coming from. The CDC levels are currently defined as: Low (green), Medium (yellow) and High (red) levels of transmission. Protocols for camp will change if we move to a higher level of local transmission, in order to protect campers and staff as we move through the summer.

The Covid transmission level for each county in the country can be found at:
CDC COVID Data Tracker: County View

Camper families and all guests will have their week's grouping/cohort requirements communicated to them in an email sent out on the Thursday before their week at camp. Levels may be different depending on which camp location you are attending. The current level of transmission that we are operating under at each camp can also be found on the NovusWay website at: novusway.org/summer2022site.

Our seven key strategies to achieve this goal are:

1. **Prescreening:** Measures that campers and guests will need to take before coming to camp or documents they need to sign off on related to health or contact before camp, will be communicated, and provided to you at least 4 weeks before camp.
2. **Testing** - All staff will be tested at the beginning of staff orientation. Staff who are not vaccinated will be tested weekly. Campers and volunteers will not be tested unless we determine that we have moved to a high/red transmission rate or there is an outbreak of Covid-19 in the camper's cohort.
3. **Cohorts or "family groups":** Many of the ACA's recommendations are based on campers being assigned to specific cohorts or "family groups" during their time at camp. This is easy as the cabin group or adventure group is already central to our campers' experience at our camps over the week. Interaction between cabin groups may be reduced to minimize contact and protect campers from transmission if we move to medium/yellow and high/red transmission levels.
4. **Contact tracing:** Each camp has developed a contact tracing strategy that will allow us to quickly identify where and with whom campers and counselors were in contact while at camp. If someone becomes ill while on camp, it will allow us to quickly identify those that were around the sick person and keep them separated from the rest of the camp if the situation warrants.
5. **Wearing a face-covering:** The use of face coverings will depend on community transmission levels as defined by the CDC. If community transmission levels are low/green, face masks will only be required of day visitors who come in contact with campers, staff, or volunteers. Directors may also require masks to protect campers and staff who must come in very close contact for an extended period of time (more than 10 minutes). If the transmission level

rises to medium/yellow or high/red, we will work to define places where face-covering is most needed and impactful. We will also define opportunities during your camper's week when they can be safely face-covering free. The need for masks will be determined based on CDC and Health Department guidance.

6. **Physical distance:** Within program groups at camp and between program groups, we will encourage appropriate six-foot distance between campers and staff. When this is not possible, or groups are inside, we may require face-covering if transmission levels warrant it.
7. **Safety culture:** The measures we incorporate will be a part of our summer staff orientation and a part of the learning and growing we do together at camp. This will be just one more way that, as a camp community, we put others' safety and care first.
8. **Quality ventilation**: Camps will make every effort to provide a high degree of ventilation and air filtering in our facilities in order to decrease the risk of Covid-19 transmission.
9. **Maximizing outdoor programming:** We are an outdoor ministry. The safest place for all of us to gather during this pandemic is out in God's good creation. We will be looking at ways to move even more activity outside and maximize the fun!

Before Arriving at Camp

Campers & Guests will arrive healthy at camp.

1. Parents, guardians, church leaders, guests, and campers will receive an ARRIVE HEALTHY CHECKLIST in advance. This document will provide tips on ensuring they protect themselves in the 2 weeks before camp, travel to and arrive at camp as healthy as possible. This resource will also have a Self-Assessment Checklist. Parents/guardians should complete and sign off on the Self-Assessment Checklist before registration.
    A. If campers are traveling with groups or adults other than their parents or guardian, the adult bringing them to camp should conduct the Self-Assessment Checklist before leaving for camp and have the camper's parent or guardian sign off. If a camper does not pass the Self-Assessment Checklist, they should not be brought to camp and should not be in contact with campers who are coming to camp.
2. What to bring
    A. Campers and guests should bring their own masks for wearing during the week. Regardless of transmission rates, all campers **may** have times when masks are required. NovusWay Camps encourages wearing the following CDC-approved face coverings.
        a. Masks with two or more layers of washable, breathable fabric that cover the nose and mouth entirely with no gaps around the side. Masks should not have exhalation valves.
        b. A disposable medical procedure or surgical mask with two layers that cover the nose and mouth entirely with no gaps around the side.

c. An N95 or KN95 Mask

3. Campers will not be tested or required to have a test done before camp unless the self-assessment indicated they have been exposed to a high-risk environment. Camp does reserve the right to test campers if there is an exposure in their cohort during camp.

While at Camp

1. Monitoring Campers
    A. Staff will assess each morning if any campers in their family group feels sick or have symptoms and will monitor the health and wellness of their campers throughout the day.
    B. Counselors will log these assessments, and leadership will retain logs for the duration of the summer.
2. Caring for Symptomatic Campers
    A. Staff will ask campers who present with Covid symptoms to put on a mask and immediately send them to the nurse or program director for further evaluation. If leadership staff determines that Covid Symptoms are present, the camper will be placed in isolation, receive an on-site covid rapid test. If the test is positive, they will be monitored by a nurse or program director until staff can make safe arrangements for parents or guardians to pick them up. If the on site Covid test was negative and the camper is vaccinated, they can return to their group but must wear a mask for 2 more days and then be tested again. If this test is negative, they can return to regular programming. If the test was negative and the camper was not vaccinated, camper should be isolated for 48 hours and then retested. If the camper is negative on the second test the camper can return to their group but must remain masked for the balance of the camp.
    B. Staff caring for symptomatic camper will wear appropriate PPE, including mask and gloves. They will limit interaction with the symptomatic camper as much as possible.
    C. If a camper is symptomatic or has a positive covid test, the camper's family group or cohort will have closer monitoring for symptoms. If the camper receives a positive test result, the camp will communicate with parents and guardians of campers in the cohort group. The camp will not notify parents or guardians of campers not in the family or cohort group of a camper who tests positive unless contact tracing deems it necessary.

Campers & Guests will stay healthy while at camp

1. Arrival at Camp and What to Expect at Check-In
    A. Locations for check-in and registration will be located outside, weather permitting. During bad weather, staff will set up check-in locations in highly ventilated buildings.

B. At low/green and medium/yellow levels of transmission, Camps may utilize the following drop off procedure:
    a. Upon arrival at a check-in location for campers, only one to two adults in the family or camper group should exit their vehicle and bring campers forward for check-in. Please do not bring children who are not attending camp to registration.
    b. Campers and adults should be masked and will have their temperature taken before entering the check-in area.
    c. Camper and adults in a family or group should maintain at least six feet between themselves and other groups.
    d. Parents and guardians will be allowed a limited amount of time to get their child settled into their cabins. No more than two adults and two campers (plus staff) may be in the cabin or living space at one time during check-in.

C. At high/red levels of transmission (or Director may choose this drop off procedure if it better fits the needs of the camp), drop-off will be touchless. This is done to protect the camp community from having Covid-19 introduced unnecessarily. In this case:
    a. Campers will be dropped off and will be the only ones who exit the car.
    b. Cars dropping off will be directed to locations to drop off paperwork, luggage, medicine, etc. and a staff member will approach the car to collect the needed information and supplies.
    c. If we are at the red transmission level, please have everyone in the car wear a mask for drop off.

D. Please do not arrive early. Staff will be preparing to welcome your child safely. There will be no one available to do pre-camp screening until the designated check-in time.

2. Cohorts
    A. Camp leadership will determine cohort guidelines based on the current transmission level of Covid-19 in the county where the camp is located and the counties where campers live. Some activities may have specific cohort guidelines in order to limit possible transmission.
    B. For these protocols, all campers and counselors are organized into **family groups** and **cohorts**.
        a. **Family groups** are small groups that campers and counselors gather with, beginning with cabin groups or adventure groups. Family groups can be unmasked or gathered closer than physical distancing guidelines regardless of transmission levels.
        b. **Cohorts** are larger groups with which campers and counselors can gather in some shared space. A cohort is usually made up of the program in which the camper is registered or two or more Family-groups (depending on the camp and the level of transmission).

C. Cabin Groups / Adventure Groups – This grouping of campers and counselors will maintain a 1 to 8 counselor to camper ratio.
D. Chaperones attending camp with campers are asked to limit their interaction to a single cohort when we are at medium/yellow or high/red transmission levels.

3. Cohort Levels: Levels allow us to shift our cohort use throughout the summer based on transmission rates in our county and the communities served and based on what is safest for our campers and staff, while maintaining the conditions that allow for the best possible camp experience.
    A. Low/Green Level (CDC Designation) in county where camp resides and most counties that campers come from:
        a. Program groups are matched with other program groups to form a larger cohort that can more freely interact with each other at camp. Cohorts are generally determined by program group. Cohorts should be less than 100 people.
    B. Medium/Yellow Level (CDC Designation) In county where camp resides and/or counties where campers come from:
        a. A cohort is made up of the entire program related group (usually multiple cabins) for the week your camper is registered at camp and is no more than 50 people).
    C. High/Red level (CDC Designation) In county where camp resides and/or counties where campers come from:
        a. Family groups to include 1 to 2 cabin/adventure groups within their program to create a small cohort (generally no more than 30 people).
4. Masking
    A. Camp leadership will determine masking guidelines based on the current amount of disease transmission. Regardless of the general guidelines in effect, some activities may have specific masking guidelines.
    B. Staff interacting with multiple program groups (e.g., program directors) may be required to be masked when unable to maintain six feet of distance outside or interacting with groups inside.
    C. Because they are interacting with multiple groups, C3ARE leaders and nurses may be required to mask when interacting with camper groups
    D. If chaperones wish to interact with a different cohort (e.g., take pictures), they must wear a mask and maintain at least 9 feet of physical distance.
5. Mask Levels: These levels allow us to shift our mask use throughout the summer based on transmission rates in the communities served and based on what is safest for our campers and staff, while maintaining the conditions that allow for the best possible camp experience.
    A. Low/Green Level (CDC Designation) in county where camp resides and most counties that campers come from:

a. Minor use of masks in high-risk situations as designated by NovusWay and the camp's Program Director.
b. Parents/Guardians wear mask at drop off and while settling campers into cabin. Day Visitors wear masks when indoors with campers or in close contact with campers or staff.
c. Campers and staff wear masks if they are within 10 days of a positive Covid test or have had close contact with a person who tested positive and are not vaccinated.
d. General use of masks is not required. Campers and counselors are not required to mask while indoors or outdoors while on the camp property except during designated close contact activities or while interacting with the public outside of camp.

B. Medium/Yellow Level (CDC Designation) In county where camp resides and/or counties where campers come from:
a. Parents/Guardians wear mask at drop off and while settling campers into cabin. In some cases, the Director may ask parents to stay in the car at drop off and to wear a mask when they are interacting with staff (who come up to the car) to get luggage, forms, etc. Day Visitors wear masks when indoors with campers or in close contact with campers and staff.
b. Campers and staff wear masks If they are within 10 days of a positive Covid test or have had close contact with a person who tested positive and are not vaccinated.
c. Campers and counselors unmasked while outside. Campers and counselors unmasked while inside with cohort. Masks will be required when Indoors with another cohort or when in close contact with your own cohort (except while swimming, eating, or sleeping). Masks may also be required if there are campers in the cohort who have lowered Immune systems. Social distancing Is emphasized - 6 feet between participants whenever possible.

C. High/Red level (CDC Designation) In county where camp resides and/or counties where campers come from:
a. Parents/Guardians wear mask at drop off and do not exit the car. Day Visitors wear masks when indoors with campers or any activity in close contact with campers or staff.
b. Campers and staff wear masks If they are within 10 days of a positive Covid-19 test or have had close contact with a person who tested positive for Covid-19, and they are not vaccinated.
c. Campers and their counselors can be unmasked when with their family/cabin group while outside. They are masked when inside with their family/cabin group except when sleeping and eating. Campers and counselors mask when both indoors and outdoors with other family groups

6. Distancing
    A. Outside of their family group or cohort (depending on level of transmissions), campers will maintain at least six feet of distance between themselves and other campers/staff where possible.
    B. Masks may be required if distancing is not possible (e.g., a lifeguard helping a camper put a lifejacket on).
7. Housing
    A. Whenever possible, a bedroom or cabin will house no more than eight campers and one counselor.
    B. Counselors will instruct campers to sleep in positions that keep their heads as far apart from each other as possible, and beds will be spaced out as much as possible.
    C. Where possible, when multiple bedrooms are under one roof, a housing unit will be limited to a single cohort.
    D. General duty staff are housed separately from campers.
    E. Housing units will have adequate ventilation, and when possible, windows will be left open.

8. Cleaning
    A. Increased cleaning protocol will be in place to prevent the spread of Covid19. Campers and staff may do cleaning as a part of daily activities, or it may be completed by general duty staff. Cleaning will be documented in cleaning logs.
        a. Common areas (e.g., craft lodge, dining hall) will be cleaned and disinfected between groups.
        b. Frequently touched surfaces (doorknobs, light switches, etc.) will be cleaned and disinfected at least once daily.
        c. Restrooms in cabins will be cleaned once daily. Showers will be disinfected between uses.
        d. Campers and staff will be encouraged to use restrooms in their cabins rather than shared restrooms. Shared restrooms will be cleaned and disinfected once daily or between groups in common areas such as craft lodge.
        e. Appropriate personal protective equipment such as gloves will be worn for cleaning and disinfecting.
        f. All housing units will be cleaned and disinfected between groups.
9. Program Activities
    A. Activities that involve close physical interaction (e.g., gaga ball or challenge course) or shared supplies (e.g., crafts) will be limited to one family group/cohort at a time. Shared supplies will be disinfected per CDC guidelines between groups.
    B. Multiple family groups from the same cohort may be at an activity area simultaneously (e.g., GIC course). However, they will not share program supplies and

will maintain appropriate social distancing between family groups if we are at high/red level of transmission.

C. If more than on program group is participating in an activity that involves close physical interaction, all participants may be required to wear a mask.
D. Program staff outside of a camper family group/cohort who interact with campers during a program activity and must be within six feet of them may be required to wear a mask. If this is the case, campers will also wear a mask for this interaction.
E. Waterfront/pool activities
    a. Swimming may be limited to one cohort at a time. Within the cohort, campers should maintain at least one pool noodle's length away from campers who are not in their family or cohort group.
    b. If we are at High/red community transmission, family groups will rotate through elements at the pool or the lake, such as the blob or slides.
F. Off-Site Trips
    a. Campers and staff will undergo additional screening before boarding any transportation.
    b. While traveling in a bus or van, all campers or staff should wear a mask if we are at high/red level of community transmission. All campers/staff will wash or sanitize hands before and after entering the vehicle.
    c. When possible, only one family/adventure group (high/red transmission) or cohort (medium/yellow or low/green transmission) will be in a vehicle. If there are multiple family/adventure groups in the same vehicle, all groups must be from the same cohort, and campers from separate family groups will not sit next to each other.
    d. When possible and safe to do so, operators should open windows before campers' board. If not possible or comfortable to open windows, staff will set the ventilation system to high and will not recirculate conditioned air. Internal cabin air filters will be in place and changed regularly.
    e. Vehicles will be disinfected daily and between use by different groups per CDC guidelines.
    f. Staff will prohibit camper interaction with people who are not a part of the camp program (the general public).
    g. Campers and staff may be required to wear masks when in public places with other people or during activities being led by outside staff (e.g., adventure guides). This Is especially true when there Is a medium/yellow or high/red transmission rate.
    h. Staff will ensure frequent hand washing and sanitizing.
G. Singing (including chanting and cheering)
    a. Campers and staff may only sing outside.
    b. Campers shall be masked and six feet apart for all singing when the transmission level is high/red. If transmission levels are low/green or

medium/yellow, singing does not require a mask, but care should be taken to provide a bubble of space in front of the singers (avoid shared air).

c. Singing in anything larger than a family group or cohort requires permission from the program director.
d. Campers and staff are encouraged to be creative and find ways to use musical instruments or have a small group sing rather than having an entire cohort sing. Singing In a circle, facing outward and socially distanced is one strategy.