ORDER OF THE HEALTH OFFICER OF THE COUNTY OF CONTRA COSTA

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDIVIDUALS ENTERING CERTAIN LICENSED AND OTHER SPECIFIED FACILITIES

PHYSICAL DISTANCING AND SELF-EVALUATION FOR COVID-19 SYMPTOMS

MASKING OF ALL STAFF AND VISITORS WHILE IN FACILITY

MINIMIZING STAFF WORKING IN MULTIPLE FACILITIES

NO. HO-COVID19-21

DATE OF ORDER: JUNE 26, 2020

Please read this Order carefully. Violation of or failure to comply with this Order is a misdemeanor punishable by fine, imprisonment, or both. (California Health and Saf. Code, § 120295.)

SUMMARY OF THE ORDER

California is in a State of Emergency because of the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic. The spread of the novel coronavirus that causes COVID-19 is a substantial danger to the health of the public within the County of Contra Costa ("County"). COVID-19 can easily spread between people who are in close contact with one another. This Order is issued based on scientific evidence and best practices as currently known and available to protect vulnerable members of the public from avoidable risk of serious illness or death resulting from exposure to COVID-19. The age, condition, and health of a significant portion of the population of the County place it at risk for serious health complications, including death, from COVID-19. There is growing evidence of transmission risk from infected persons before the onset of symptoms. Thus, all individuals who contract COVID-19, regardless of their level of symptoms (none, mild or severe), may place other vulnerable members of the public at significant risk. Currently, there is no vaccine available to protect against COVID-19 and no specific treatment.
The Health Officer of the County of Contra Costa has determined that there is an increased risk of COVID-19 among persons living or working in licensed healthcare facilities, residential care facilities, shelters, group homes and drug treatment recovery houses. To help slow COVID-19’s spread and protect vulnerable individuals, and prevent the healthcare system in the County from being overwhelmed, it is necessary for the Health Officer of the County of Contra Costa to direct the implementation of additional preventative measures.

This Order revises requirements that applied to the above-referenced facilities under Health Officer Order No. HO-COVID19-06. Changes include a requirement to keep and maintain logs that identify all staff and visitors entering and exiting a facility, and the easing of a restriction on communal dining and group activities.

UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF SECTIONS 101040 AND 120175 OF THE CALIFORNIA HEALTH AND SAFETY CODE, THE HEALTH OFFICER OF THE COUNTY OF CONTRA COSTA (“HEALTH OFFICER”) ORDERS:

1. **Prior Order Superseded.** Health Officer Order No. HO-COVID19-06 is hereby superseded, effective immediately.

2. **Temperature Screening.** All individuals who are not a patient or existing or new resident at a facility described in Attachment A (“Facility”) that is located in Contra Costa County shall submit to a temperature screening immediately prior to entering the Facility if required by Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidelines. The temperature screenings will be conducted by the operator of the Facility or his or her designee (“Facility Operator”), utilizing the least intrusive means possible, such as by a non-contact infrared thermometer, in accordance with CDC guidelines.

3. **Self-Evaluation.** Immediately prior to entering a Facility, all individuals who are not a patient or existing or new resident at the Facility shall self-evaluate for signs and symptoms of COVID-19 or other respiratory illness, including fever, sore throat, coughing, shortness of breath or general weakness in the past seven days (“Symptoms”). Upon entry into the Facility, the individual shall immediately report the results of the symptom self-evaluation to the Facility Operator.

4. **Daily Logs.** Each Facility shall keep and maintain daily entrance and exit logs that show the name, phone number, and time of entry and exit, of each visitor and staff member person who enters the Facility. For each staff member, the log will also identify any and all other Facilities where the staff member worked in the previous 14 days. The logs must be produced immediately upon demand of staff of the Contra Costa County Health Services Department (CCHS).

5. **Prohibition of Entry.** Except as set forth below, no individual who is not a patient or existing or new resident at a Facility shall enter the Facility if, immediately prior to the planned entry, (a) the temperature screening described in Paragraph 1 of this Order, if conducted, indicates that the individual has a body temperature of 100.0 degrees F. or 37.8 degrees C. or greater; or (b) the individual has identified any Symptoms in the self-evaluation described in
Paragraph 2 of this Order. This Paragraph does not apply to necessary companions of patients in Facilities, including a parent or guardian of a child or an attendant necessary for the care, mobility or communication of a patient with access, communication or functional needs.

6. **Masking.** Each staff member of or adult visitor to a Facility shall cover his or her nose and mouth with a surgical mask at all times while in the Facility, except as follows. If surgical masks are not available, a clean and dry cloth mask or other cloth covering will suffice. If a cloth covering is used, it must be laundered after each shift before reuse. If there is a suspected or confirmed case of COVID-19 at the Facility, the Facility Operator shall implement then-current CDC guidelines applicable to the use of N-95 masks for suspect or confirmed COVID-19 cases, unless directed otherwise by CCHS.

7. **Social Distancing.** Staff members of and visitors to a Facility shall practice social distancing by remaining at least 6 feet apart from other persons. The Facility Operator shall direct staff members to provide instruction to residents about practicing social distancing. All occupants of an individual room at a Facility shall practice social distancing by remaining at least 6 feet apart from other persons when out of their individual room.

8. **Communal Dining: Group Activities.** If there is no outbreak of COVID-19 at a Facility, as defined by the State of California, notwithstanding any other order of the Health Officer, the Facility may offer communal dining and group activities to residents of the Facility. Participation in communal dining or group activities must be limited to residents who are not in isolation as the result of a COVID-19 test or awaiting results of a COVID-19 test. Communal dining must take place in a single room and tables must be spaced so that each resident, when seated, can remain at least 6 feet apart from other residents who do not reside in the same individual room. No more than 10 residents may participate in a group activity at one time. Indoor group activities will take place in a single room. The Facility will ensure that, during group activities, residents practice social distancing, wear face coverings and have access to hand sanitizer or soap and water for hand washing as needed. Following each communal meal or group activity, the Facility must thoroughly clean and sanitize all areas of the room that were utilized, including but not limited to tables, chairs, floors and other surfaces, equipment and high-touch items, as applicable. The Facility should use disinfectant cleaning products on the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s list of products that meet the criteria for use against SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19 (https://www.epa.gov/pesticide-registration/list-n-disinfectants-use-against-sars-cov-2-covid-19).

9. **Notification to Emergency Dispatch and Ambulance Transporters.** If there is a suspected or confirmed case of COVID-19 at a Facility, and either an emergency medical response to, or transport by ambulance from, the Facility is requested, the Facility Operator shall notify the emergency dispatcher and ambulance operator of (a) the presence of a suspected or confirmed case of COVID-19 at the Facility and (b) the COVID-19 status of the patient or resident for which they are requesting emergency medical services or ambulance transport.

10. **Staff Working at Multiple Facilities.** As much as possible considering staffing needs, Facilities should avoid using employees who have worked at another Facility in the past 14 days.
11. **Posting.** A copy of this Order shall be posted at all entrances to each Facility immediately upon receipt.

12. **Effective Date and Time.** This Order shall become effective at 12:01 a.m. on June 23, 2020, and will continue to be in effect until it is extended, rescinded, superseded, or amended in writing by the Health Officer.

13. **Copies.** Copies of this Order shall promptly be: (1) made available at the Office of the Director of Contra Costa Health Services, 1220 Morello Avenue, Suite 200, Martinez, CA 94553; (2) posted on the Contra Costa Health Services website (https://www.cchealth.org); and (3) provided to any member of the public requesting a copy. Questions or comments regarding this Order may be directed to Contra Costa Health Services at (844) 729-8410.

14. **Severability.** If any provision of this Order or its application to any person or circumstance is held to be invalid, then the remainder of the Order, including the application of such part or provision to other persons or circumstances, shall not be affected and shall continue in full force and effect. To this end, the provisions of this Order are severable.

**IT IS SO ORDERED:**

[Signature]

Dated: June 26, 2020

Chris Farnitano, M.D.
Health Officer of the County of Contra Costa

Attachments: Attachment A
Attachment A

Facilities Subject to Health Officer Order No. HO-COVID19-21

- Psychiatric health facilities
- Skilled nursing facilities
- Intermediate care facilities (all license types)
- Hospice facilities
- Social rehabilitation facilities
- Continuing care retirement facilities
- Adult residential care facilities
- Licensed group homes, including runaway and homeless youth shelters
- Homeless shelters
- Recovery houses or sober living environments providing group living arrangements
- Residential facilities operated by transitional housing programs
- Residential facilities operated by residential substance use disorder treatment programs
- Residential care facilities for the elderly
- Residential facilities for adults with special health care needs