COVID-19 Safety Plan
for Certified Day Program Reopening

Agency Legal Name	The Arc, Oneida-Lewis Chapter	
Agency Address	245 Genesee Street, Utica, NY 13501	
Day Program Type	■ **Certified Site** □ **Community, without Walls**	■ **Day Habilitation** □ **Prevocational** □ **Day Treatment** □ **Respite** □ **Sheltered Workshop**
Anticipated Reopening Date	9/14/2020	
Operating Certificate Number	61280352	
Site Address (certified sites only)	9081 Old River Road Marcy, NY 13403	
Certified Capacity (certified sites only)	48	
Primary Contact Name	Gail Miskowiec, COO	
Primary Contact Email and phone #	gfmiskowiec@thearcolc.org 315-272-1543	

The program's Safety Plan must describe procedures to operate the certified day program site or deliver day program service in accordance with the guidance document, Interim Guidance Regarding the Reopening of Day Services Certified by the Office for People With Developmental Disabilities. This document provides the outline to utilize for development of the Safety Plan (or future revision).

Some requirements may not be applicable to community-based services.

Please submit the written safety plan for each program to OPWDD prior to the reopening at quality@opwdd.ny.gov. In addition, for each safety plan, a completed Day Program Site Attestation must also be submitted. OPWDD will maintain copies of the plans for our records. OPWDD will not be providing approvals of agency plans.

Certified Sites must also maintain a copy of the program's Safety Plan on premises available to facility staff, OPWDD and local health authorities upon request. Community day program services (non-site based, without walls) must also make a copy of the Safety Plan available upon request.

SAFETY PLAN COMPONENTS

NOTE: Guidance bullets below are not a substitute for provider review and adherence to content of *Interim Guidance Regarding the Reopening of Day Services Certified by the Office for People With Developmental Disabilities*

Signage – applies to certified sites and other locations controlled by the provider

- Ensure program building entrances have signs that alert that non-essential visitors are not allowed.
- Ensure signs are posted throughout the program building to provide instruction on the critical COVID-19 transmission prevention and containment activities identified in the companion document *Interim Guidance Regarding the Reopening of Day Services Certified by the Office for People With Developmental Disabilities.*

Identify how you will ensure the above and any related strategies:

The Arc's Chief Communication Officer has created packets of all necessary signage, compliant with OPWDD and DOH. A package has been disseminated to each day hab to be prominently displayed. The Chief Operations Officer and Director of Day Services have spot checked the site to ensure all necessary signs are displayed. It is the responsibility of the site safety manager to ensure signs remain posted and are replaced as they become worn or fall down.

A. Entrance to Site Based Programs

Pre-Entry/Pre-Participation Screening:

- Screen all individuals, staff, and essential visitors prior to entry into the day program site and/or participation in services/service delivery:
  - per infection control standards for protection of screener and screened person,
  - to include temperature check and required questions on exposure and COVID-19 Symptoms, per NYS DOH and OPWDD guidance documents.
- Maintain daily documentation of all screening of individuals, staff and visitors in compliance with OPWDD and NYS guidance and policy.

Response to Signs and Symptoms and Departure:

- Safe management of any individual, staff or visitor who fails initial/pre-program screening or is exhibiting signs or symptoms during service delivery, to include:
  - Facilitating departure as soon as possible, and
  - Safely manage separation from people not exhibiting symptoms, until they depart.
- Ensure instruction is provided to any individual or staff sent home due to symptoms to contact their health care provider and written information on healthcare and testing resources.
- Ensure the day program immediately notifies the local health department and OPWDD about the suspected case.

Participation and Return to Program/Service:

- Ensure staff members know to report and how to report positive COVID-19 test results, exposure/possible exposure, and signs and symptoms to their supervisor.
- Ensure individuals do not participate in day services while they or a member of their household or certified residence is being quarantined or isolated.
- Maintain medical documentation allowing an individual or staff member who was COVID-19 positive to return to program site/services.
- Ensure any return of an individual or staff to programs/services occurs only in adherence to OPWDD and NYS DOH guidance regarding quarantine periods and fever free durations.

Identify how you will ensure the above and any related strategies:

Per the reopening plan for day hab, the site safety manager is responsible to ensure everyone who enters their site, including people we support complete health screenings prior to entering. Each site has a screening station at the entrance that has a thermometer, PPE, logs and disinfectant. Individuals transported by program staff are screened prior to gettin in teh vehicle, and those dropped off by family are screened prior to the family member leaving the site. The site safety manager reviews all logs. Should anyone display COVID like symptoms once at site, they will be separated from others until tehy can leave. Also, protocols are in place for anyone who tests positive for COVID-19, are potentially exposed to COVID-19 or are displaying signs and symptoms, as required

B. Social Distancing Requirements:

Ensure effective practices to facilitate social distancing when distancing is not possible, including the following:

- Reduction of total number of individuals served at one time, in order to reduce congestion and facilitate easier social distancing;
- Plans to maintain no more than 50% occupancy in small/confined spaces within a program, such as a staff break room;
- Potential use of physical barriers within site-based spaces;
- Planned use, capacity and arrangement of furniture and/or work equipment in program rooms, workspaces and meal and seating areas to allow for social distancing of at least six feet apart in all directions (i.e. 36 square feet) and limit density. (Note an individual's needs may require individual to staff distance to be less than six feet);
- Use of signage and floor markers/distance markers denoting spaces of six feet throughout program area spaces, common spaces, waiting areas, entry, exits and other areas of travel;
- Facilitate one directional foot traffic where necessary in narrow spaces, using tape or signs with arrows;
- Install physical barriers, as appropriate, especially when physical distancing is not feasible between program/workspaces;
- Support and education of individuals to learn physical distancing/use of markers, patterns of movement, and other program strategies;
- Maintain a staffing plan to prevent employees who should need to "float" between different rooms or different groups of individuals, unless such rotation is necessary to safely support individuals due to unforeseen circumstances (e.g. staff absence).

- Provide adequate space and operational practices (e.g. staggered break times) for staff to adhere to social distancing while completing independent tasks (i.e. paperwork) and when taking breaks (i.e. eating or smoking).

Identify how you will ensure the above and any related strategies:

This site will maintain an attendance pattern of no more than 50% attendance (24 people we support) at any given time. The physical space consists of four small classrooms, a large classroom and a large break room. Individuals will be assigned to one room and all programming, including breaks and lunch will be provided in that room. Persons will be assigned a cohort and consistent staffing assignments will be used to limit floating staff as much as possible. Each program room has been set up to maintain social distancing by assigning work spaces that are spaced out. Hallways have floor markings for one directional traffic, using a traffic flow model.

C. Gatherings in Enclosed Spaces

- Modifications to day program/service hours as needed, to allow blocks of service provision while maintaining reduced capacity and group size.
- Planned group size, which will be limited to no more than fifteen (15) individuals who receive services. The restriction on group size does not include employees/staff.
- Ensure the group (≤15) of individuals receiving services and staff working with them are as static as possible.
- Ensure that different stable groups individuals and staff, have no or minimal contact with one another and do not utilize common spaces at the same time, to the greatest extent possible.
- Stagger staff and/or individual meal and break times to maintain social distancing.
- Adhere to social/physical distancing practices identified in the safety plan.
- Prohibit shared food and beverages and buffet style dining.
- Require that food brought from home must require limited preparation (i.e. heating in microwave) during day services and be packed appropriately.
- Ensure reusable food utensils and storage containers are washed in the dishwasher on the hottest wash and dry setting.

Identify how you will ensure the above and any related strategies:

This site is over 10,500 square feet and can easily accommodate 50% capacity (24 people we support) while allowing for social distancing. Five class rooms and the dining room can be used to allow for social distancing and people will be in cohorts of the same people each day. Arrival and departure times are staggered to allow for thorough assessment by the site safety monitor. Staff are assigned the same program room with the same cohort daily. Social distancing will be adhered to at all times in common area as well as the enforced used of masks. Everyone will be encouraged to bring their own lunch in a paper bag. The program will supply disposable utensils and plates/cups. Lunches will be staggered to allow for social distancing in the kitchen should any food need to be microwaved. Any containers brought from home will be sent home to be cleaned at home. Any utensils owned by

D. Day Program Schedules and Activities

- Modifications to day program/service hours as needed, to allow blocks of service provision while maintaining reduced capacity and group size.

- Focus on activities with little or no physical contact and which do not rely on shared equipment, to the extent possible.
- Schedule individual's activities to reduce density and allow for social distancing.

Identify how you will ensure the above and any related strategies:

Schedules of attendance have been developed to allow for no more than 24 people in attendance at a time. Consideration was given regarding the mode of transportation, to ensure no more than 50% capacity at any time in agency vehicles. Classroom capacity is reduced to ensure adequate social distancing at all times.
Persons are grouped according to skill level and preferences, as well as the ability to get along with each other. This method lends itself to cooperation and an easier flow to service delivery. Group activities will be conducted with no physical contact nor shared equipment. Outside activities, in small groups, will be encouraged, weather permitting. This option will further reduce the number of people in the program rooms.

E. Personal Protective Equipment:

- Ensure all staff wear an appropriate cloth or disposable face mask/covering that covers both the mouth and nose, at all times while providing services, consistent with all current Executive Orders and OPWDD guidelines (unless medically contraindicated / not tolerated.
- Ensure all essential visitors wear a face mask or covering, providing a facemask onsite at no cost, if visitors do not have their own which meets requirements.
- Support individuals receiving services to wear face coverings, as tolerated, whenever social distancing cannot be achieved.
- Maintain an adequate supply of required PPE on site (and available to staff for when needed for community-based services) to minimally include masks and gloves, and with gowns and face shields as needed.
- Train all staff on proper use of PPE including when necessary to use, donning, doffing, disposing and/or reusing and sanitizing when appropriate.
- Retain documentation of trainings in the employees' personnel files and per agency procedures.

Identify how you will ensure the above and any related strategies:

The Arc has a database to track inventory of all PPE and disinfectant supplies that we have been using since April. The site safety manager will track inventory of PPE at their assigned location and reorder as necessary, maintaining an adequate supply at all times. All staff have been initially trained as well as received refresher training on use of PPE, this will be ongoing. Those persons receiving remote day hab have been receiving instruction on proper social distancing and use of PPE; this will be reinforced daily and modeled by staff.
Each site has face masks available for anyone without a face mask or covering, including essential visitors, staff and people we support.

F. Hygiene and Cleaning

Personal Hygiene to Reduce Transmission:

- Ensure strict adherence to hygiene requirements to reduce transmission as advised by NYS DOH and the CDC.
- Provide and maintain hand hygiene stations at each location to include:
  - Handwashing: soap, running warm water, and disposable paper towels.
  - Hand sanitizing: alcohol-based hand sanitizer containing at least 60% alcohol for areas where handwashing facilities may not be available or practical, and where the need for frequent hand sanitizing is expected;
- Train staff to wash their hands frequently with soap and water for at least 20 seconds using techniques per NYS DOH and CDC guidance, including the conditions that require handwashing.
- Support individuals to wash their hands frequently/when needed, with soap and water, for at least 20 seconds using appropriate techniques as tolerated.
- Encourage and facilitate use of hand sanitizers by staff and individuals upon arrival to and departure from program and through the day, providing supervision/support of use by individuals as needed.
- Address any individualized needs affecting the unsupervised availability of hand sanitizer.

Cleaning and Disinfection of Environment, Equipment and Supplies:

- Strictly adhere to sanitation requirements as advised by NYS DOH guidance documents.
- Implement the following minimum standards regarding cleaning and sanitizing:
  - Frequent cleaning and rigorous disinfection of high-risk areas/high touch surfaces;
  - Use of only EPA registered products for disinfecting non-porous surfaces;
  - Adhere to proper dwell times for all cleaners, sanitizers and disinfectants per manufacturer recommendations as indicated on the product label; and
  - Ensure adequate ventilation to prevent inhaling toxic fumes.
  - Maintain site cleaning logs indicating the date, time, and scope of cleaning.
  - Keep cleaning products, sanitizers and disinfectants secure and out of reach of individuals who may misuse;
  - Safely and immediately discard used gloves, paper towels or other disposable items after sanitizing or disinfecting, tied in a trash bag and removed from the environment.
  - Clean and disinfect all areas and equipment used by a person exhibiting symptoms upon their departure from the area and prior to use of the area or equipment by other individuals or staff.
  - PPE use and hand hygiene when cleaning and disinfecting causes safety hazards.
  - Provide ventilation with outside air safely and when possible.
- Limit use of shared objects/equipment. Ensure shared items are cleaned and/or sanitized after each use. Require hand hygiene before/after contact and glove use when feasible.
- Prohibit use of items/objects that cannot be cleaned and sanitized (i.e. soft object, cloth placemats, etc.) unless clinically required.
- Prohibit bringing personal items from home, except when clinically necessary, then have a plan for regular cleaning and disinfection including immediately prior to departure.

Identify how you will ensure the above and any related strategies:

Staff and people we support are encouraged to wash hands thoroughly and frequently, including their arrival to the site. Scheduled hygiene breaks will occur every two hours. This break will include a time out to wash hands or use hand sanitizer, as well as wiping down any shared table space or high touch areas. The cleaning schedules have been enhanced and a checklist completed after each time an area is disinfected. Hand sanitizer is placed

G. Transportation

Ensure that the following measures are implemented for the transport of individuals to/from day services to reduce COVID-19 transmission risk, when providing or contracting for transportation:

- **Ensure only individuals and staff traveling to and from the same day program be transported together; individuals or staff from other day programs should not be intermingled for purposes of transportation at this time; individuals transported together are encouraged to be cohorted for purposes for day programming also, in order to reduce further intermingling;**
- Reduce capacity on buses, vans, and other vehicles **transporting individuals from multiple residences** to 50% of total capacity;
- **Individuals and staff who reside/work together in the same home may be transported together to day program(s) in the same vehicle without a vehicle capacity reduction;**
- As possible, stagger arrival and departure times to reduce entry and exit density.
- **To the extent possible, restrict close contact of individuals and staff from different households by not sitting near each other or the driver.**
- If there are multiple doors in a bus or van, utilize one-way entering and exiting. Provide instruction for individuals to exit the vehicle one at a time and wait for driver or staff instruction before doing so.;
- **Ensure staff and the driver always wear face coverings in the vehicle. Social distancing must be maintained for individuals who cannot tolerate wearing a mask and, when possible, such individuals should be transported alone or with members of the same household.** Ensure staff who cannot medically tolerate the use of a face covering are not assigned to transport individuals.
- After each trip is completed, clean and disinfect the interior of the vehicle before additional individuals are transported; and
- Where appropriate and safe, roll windows down to permit air flow.

Identify how you will ensure the above and any related strategies:

Transportation has been coordinated to be provided by families in personal vehicles or by the Agency in Agency vehicles. Vehicle capacity will not exceed 50% and only those staff and people we support who attend or work at the day program will be transported together. Face masks will be worn by all and if they cannot be tolerated, social distancing will be used, and if that is not possible, people will be transported alone. The trip log has been revised to indicate disinfecting after each trip. A schedule has been developed to stagger start and end times to reduce density.

H. Tracing and Tracking

- Notify the local health department and OPWDD immediately upon being informed of any positive COVID-19 test result by an individual or staff at their site.
- If a staff or visitor test positive, procedures for day service cooperation with the local health department to trace all contacts in the workplace and notify the health department of all staff, individuals and visitors who entered the facility dating back to 48 hours before the positive person began experiencing COVID-19 symptoms or tested positive, maintaining confidentiality as required by federal and state law and regulations.

Identify how you will ensure the above and any related strategies:

A log will be maintained at each location to indicate each person at the location to include the phone number, date, time, symptom screening. Attendance of each person supported, along with symptom screenings are maintained as well. The Arc has a designated staff position, Risk Management Coordinator who tracks any testing and works directly with the LHD for directives on tracking and tracing.

ADDITIONAL SAFETY PLAN MEASURES:

Please use this space to provide additional details about your program's Safety Plan, if appropriate.

Furhter the Quality Assurance Team will periodically conduct site reviews to ensure compliance with the safety plan and report out to management any findings, both successful implementation and opportunities for improvement. This plan has been placed on the agency website and can be found at www.thearcolc.org.