

Temporary Visitation Protocol (within the home and outside of the home/community visits) to reflect Governor Wolf's Process to Reopen Pennsylvania (Revised 7/30/2020 to reflect all counties moving into the green phase).

*This protocol may be modified based on future changes to visitation guidance by the Pennsylvania Department of Health or Pennsylvania Department of Human Services, Office of Developmental Programs and as COVID-19 positive cases increase.

Supportive Concepts for Families, Inc. (SCFF) strongly encourages family engagement and involvement both within SCFF programs and offsite at home and community visits. With COVID-19 we have temporarily updated our visitation policy to reflect Governor Wolf's Process to Reopen Pennsylvania and being mindful of continued community transmission. Weekly we will assess safety protocols and make decisions on whether CLAs may have visitation inside the CLA or whether individuals can go home for visits.

As a provider of quality services and supports for your loved one we know that the most important part of a program participant's life is family involvement and nothing can ever take the place of family. Our Community Living Programs must also balance the rights of other individuals in each program and manage the time in and out of program for health and safety purposes and to continue to provide high quality services and supports for all program participants. We ask for your cooperation and partnership in ensuring we can manage both in and out of program visits but also to ensure we mitigate exposure to COVID-19.

Visitation - Community Living Arrangements (CLA) and Life Sharing Homes

COVID-19 specific procedures:

As outlined in [ODP Announcement 20-066](#) Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19): Guidance for Visitation in Residential Settings Licensed by the Office of Developmental Programs (ODP) in the Green Phase of the Process to Reopen Pennsylvania

- No visitors will be allowed to enter any home where individuals who are at higher risk for serious illness from COVID-19 reside as defined by CDC Guidance. For Life Sharing homes, this includes host families and any other individuals who reside in the home. We must ensure that all individuals who reside in the home are safe.
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/need-extra-precautions/people-at-higher-risk.html>
- Visitation inside the CLA will only be allowed when the location of the CLA, Life Sharing Home or offsite is not in a county with increased COVID-19 cases.
- To balance the needs of all program participants, all visits to CLAs or Life Sharing Homes need to be scheduled in advance, this way we can assess whether it is safe to visit inside the CLA or schedule an outside visit. No unscheduled visits will be allowed. This will allow us to stagger visitation times and limit the amount of people within the home.
- SCFF has scheduled visitation hours for Community Living Arrangements (CLA) and Life Sharing homes. All visits must occur between 9am and 9pm, SCFF may restrict these hours based on the safety and health needs of other consumers.

- No more than 2 individuals can visit and for no more than 2 hours at any time.
- Social distancing and universal precautions will be followed at all times, including but not limited to:
 - On arrival visitors will have their temperature checked and screened for signs/symptoms of COVID- 19 prior to entering the home. Anyone with an elevated temperature or signs/symptoms will not be allowed to enter the home. **SCFF prohibits any visits from people who are: Currently diagnosed with COVID-19; have been exposed to someone with COVID-19 in the 14 days prior to the visit and / or are demonstrating symptoms of COVID-19 or any other illness.**
 - All visitors must wear a mask prior to entering the home and throughout the entire visit, individual homes may have additional protection requirements that must also be followed. If visiting outside the CLA, social distancing and mask requirements will also be required No exceptions.
 - Program participants will be encouraged to wear a mask during the visit as tolerated
 - Visitors will be asked to wash their hands immediately upon entering the home
 - Visitors must remain at least 6 feet away from individuals at all times
 - Depending on the home, SCFF may restrict visitation to certain areas of the home to reduce contact with other individuals (i.e. the individual's bedroom, or outside)

Please work with your SCFF contact to schedule an in person visit.

Other Visitation Procedures:

- Visitors are defined as all non-employees present in leased or owned premises of SCFF.
- All visitors must complete the SCFF Visitor Log for each visit to the home including the date of the visit, name of visitor, purpose of the visit, time in, time out, and affiliation. The SCFF Visitor Log will be located in a convenient, accessible area in the home.
- Supportive Concepts for Families, Inc., wants to remind all visitors that first and foremost the home belongs to the individuals' residing there; their comfort, safety and emotional well-being is paramount to SCFF.
- All visitors must be courteous of other individuals residing in the home.
- Visitors are not permitted access to the home during times when the program participant and/ or staff are not present in the home.
- Visitors must respect the personal privacy of program participants.
- Visitors who are not family members or legal advocates are prohibited from occupying the personal bedroom spaces of the home and looking through closets, drawers and/or personal belongings.
- Visitors who are abusive or threatening, or who are intentionally or unintentionally causing emotional distress to program participants or staff will be asked to leave the premises; refusal to leave the premises may result in SCFF contacting local law enforcement for assistance. SCFF may also contact law enforcement if visitors appear intoxicated.

Visitors Responsibilities:

- Respect the rights, choices and property of all persons in the home, including staff and

program participants

- Respect the privacy of others, remember this is your family member's home but also the home of the other program participants
- Be aware and follow the "house rules" for the benefit of all program participants and staff

Visits that occur offsite at community settings or when a consumer is out of program (visits to friends or families' homes)

Not all visits will occur inside the home; some visitors may wish to take individuals on community outings that will not include visitors' physical presence in the home. For visits outside the home, SCFF has to assess whether there are any exposure concerns for both the individual and the other individuals that reside in the home.

- Offsite visits, community outings will only be allowed when the location of the outing is deemed safe, meaning community COVID-19 transmission rates are low and those visitors who plan to take the individual offsite will be taking the individual to a place that is not high risk for COVID-19 exposure. *If other individuals residing in the home are at higher risk for serious illness from COVID-19, SCFF may prohibit offsite outings or community visits, or require more precautions to ensure the safety of everyone in the home.*
- To balance the needs of all program participants, all visits offsite need to be scheduled in advance. No unscheduled visits will be allowed.
- It is recommended that small groups of people are present, no more than 5 and for visits to last no longer than 2 hours. SCFF may require the supports team to review transition and community support assessments/guidance to assess the safety for all individuals in the home prior to allowing offsite visits or community outings.
- Social distancing and universal precautions will be followed at all times, including but not limited to:
 - On arrival visitors will have their temperature checked and screened for signs/symptoms of COVID-19 prior to taking the individual out. Anyone with an elevated temperature or signs/symptoms will not be allowed to enter the home. **SCFF prohibits any visits from people who are: Currently diagnosed with COVID-19; have been exposed to someone with COVID-19 in the 14 days prior to the visit and / or are demonstrating symptoms of COVID-19 or any other illness, those who may have traveled to a place with high COVID-19 exposure rates, and other screening recommendations from DHS, DOH, CDC or other public health agency.**
 - Wear a mask when in public and as required by the Department of Health
 - Handwashing and social distancing – maintaining 6 feet space distance
 - Select outdoor activities that will minimize exposure to others, such as a visit to the park, or open areas
- All individuals returning to the home must follow all safety protocols, including screening, temperature checks, immediate handwashing, changing clothes and any other requirements to ensure the safety of other individuals within the home.