How KVC Hospitals is Protecting Our Clients and Employees from COVID-19

At KVC Hospitals, the safety and well-being of our employees and the children and families we serve are our first priorities. As the situation around COVID-19 continues to rapidly evolve, we continue to enhance our protocols and precautions for reducing risk of exposure in our treatment centers. Our leadership team is monitoring news throughout each day from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the World Health Organization (WHO), and our local and State health departments. We are quickly addressing new information and guidelines as they become available as well as minimizing disruption to the imperative services we provide for children and families.

At this time, we are continuing to accept new admissions for inpatient acute hospitalization and psychiatric residential treatment at all of our treatment centers in Kansas. To see all locations, visit www.kvchospitals.org/locations or call our Admissions team at (913) 890-7468.

KVC Hospitals COVID-19 Protocols

We are adhering to the following policies to keep our clients and employees safe:

- We strongly encourage family involvement throughout the treatment process but as part of our goal to keep our clients safe, we will continue to restrict visitors until further notice. We are utilizing telehealth/video capabilities and phone calls to conduct family therapy and parental/guardian visits.

- Given the current challenges with the convergence of flu, cold, and allergy season along with concerns surrounding COVID-19, we have created a workflow to care for clients who have potential symptoms. This includes a specialized observation space to conduct the necessary medical assessments while keeping other clients and employees healthy.

- All of our healthcare professionals are entering our treatment centers through the main entrance only and are not using a separate employee entrance. This allows us to conduct a thorough daily screening process with each employee, using guidelines from the CDC and the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE). This screening includes temperature checks.

- We are screening our clients daily using guidelines from the CDC and the KDHE. This screening includes temperature checks twice a day.

- New potential clients are undergoing a screening process prior to admission to check for symptoms, fever, and self-reported history of recent travel or interactions with people who have been diagnosed with COVID-19.
Our housekeeping department is using disinfectants approved by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and recommended by the CDC for sanitization of the Coronavirus family.

For children receiving treatment in our psychiatric residential treatment facilities (PRTFs), we will continue to cancel our community outings and weekend passes until further notice to reduce the risk of exposure.

We have asked all vendors to leave deliveries outside and to alert us when a delivery has been completed. If a vendor must bring a delivery inside, they are undergoing the same screening process as our employees. For contractors who must complete work onsite, they are also undergoing our employee screening process.

We will continue to provide extensive education to our employees and clients about COVID-19 and healthy hygiene habits that prevent spreading.

We will continue to cancel volunteer activities, tours, and other activities that create opportunities for exposure to COVID-19 in our treatment centers.

We value your partnership as we strive to provide the highest quality care and treatment for the children and families we serve. We will continue having frequent, open communications with all of our community providers so that together, we can help keep children and families safe and healthy throughout these challenging times.

We will keep you apprised as we have new information at KVC Hospitals. If you have any questions about our policies and protocols, please contact us at hospitals@kvc.org.

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