

Interfaith Hospitality Network of Greater Cincinnati Communicable Conditions Policies and Procedures

Policy:

The purpose of this policy is to insure to the extent possible the health of guests, volunteers, staff members and others who may be in close proximity with guests or others with contagious conditions and to expedite the return to health of guests with contagious conditions.

Procedures:

Upon intake screening:

The Case Manager performing intake will ask prospective guests to complete a health screening questionnaire listing common symptoms to determine if a contagious illness may be present in any member of the family entering the program. If the Case Manager finds that any member of the family may have a contagious illness that requires quarantine, she will help arrange quarantine and make appropriate referrals to treat the illness. The Case Manager may save a place in the program for the family to enter upon receipt of a doctor's release that the period of contagion is over.

If contagious illness is discovered while a guest is in the program:

Anyone with a contagious disease or illness requiring quarantine according to the Center for Disease Control guidelines must leave the program until the period of contagion is over and/or illness is addressed with proper medication or cleansing. A doctor's release will be required for re-entry in the program. The Case Manager or Executive Director can make an exception if the illness can be addressed within the day and the period of contagion will be over by 5:00pm.

Suggested procedures in the case of lice:

The above procedure will be followed and specific procedures below will be set into motion.

- Guest family members who are discovered to have lice or nits are required to wash their hair with lice shampoo provided by IHNGC and manually remove all lice and nits from hair with a fine-tooth comb provided with the shampoo.
- Children under the age of two should not be treated with lice shampoo but all lice and nits must be removed manually from their hair with a fine-tooth comb.
- The head of household of that family must check every member of the family (including having someone check him or her) for lice and nits and sign a statement that every family member has been checked and that all infected persons over the age of 2 have also used the shampoo.
- Additionally, every infected person must be checked and all lice and nits must be removed on a daily basis. A second treatment of lice shampoo may be recommended by the case manager in 7-10 days from initial treatment.
- Infected guest families must wash all clothing in hot water (>120 °) and dry in a hot dryer.
- Infected guests must soak combs/brushes in hot water for 10 minutes.

- Case manager(s) will talk to each family to screen for symptoms of lice to determine if any other family is infected. Non-infected persons will not be required to use lice shampoo or other treatments.

IHN staff will notify host congregations who have hosted families with lice as soon as possible upon learning of an infestation. Staff will advise host congregation(s) to prevent re=infestation by:

- Washing all bedding for families that are infected in hot water (>120°) and dry in a hot dryer.
- Vacuuming to remove all lice and hairs with attached nits from furniture, rugs, stuffed animals and car seats. Vacuum bag should be changed. Items that can not be washed or vacuumed can be put into plastic bags for three weeks, but this probably isn't necessary in most cases.
- Changing sheets and pillowcases for the infected family every night for a week and washing in hot water.
- Spraying is optional. Since lice don't survive long off a person's head, you usually don't need to use pesticide sprays on carpets, furniture, etc.
- Host congregations have the option of refusing guests with lice. It is the duty of the host congregation to inform their volunteers and support congregations of the decision to host that family or not, and to allow those volunteers to decide whether or not they will volunteer when families with lice are present if the host congregation decides to accept the family and quarantine them at the congregation.

The Day Center Staff will vacuum to remove all lice and hairs with attached nits from furniture, rugs, stuffed animals and car seats. They may place items that can not be washed or vacuumed into plastic bags for three weeks.