1. **What is the situation?**

   - Governor Pritzker issued COVID Executive Order #10 on March 20, which mandates that all individuals currently living within the State of Illinois are ordered to stay at home, except for essential activities.

   - Non-essential business and operations and non-essential travel must cease.

   - All public and private gatherings of any number of people outside of home are prohibited.

   - Essential services are those related to healthcare and public health, including pharmacies, dental offices, medical device manufacturing, home healthcare; essential government functions (law enforcement, first responders); and businesses like grocery stores, banks, animal shelters, and gas stations.

   - Human Services operations, including any agency funded by DHS, DCFS, or Medicaid; shelters; businesses that provide necessities of life for economically disadvantaged individuals, people with disabilities, or "otherwise needy individuals."

   - Essential Infrastructure (food service, distribution, sales, utilities, construction, transportation).

2. **What is the Cook County Department of Public Health doing?**

   - CCDPH is helping healthcare providers as they respond to cases of COVID-19 though support for testing, contact tracing, and case monitoring.

   - We are focusing efforts on congregate settings with high-risk individuals, like nursing homes.

   - CCDPH is hosting weekly calls for community leaders, members, and organizations to update you on the current situation and ensure you know about new or changing recommendations and resources.

   - CCDPH is answering your calls and emails. The new COVID-19 hotline is staffed from 9 am – 4 pm every day at 708-633-3319.

3. **What can your organization do?**

   - If you or your staff are ill with respiratory symptoms (cough, fever), it is recommended that you stay home for at least 7 days after you first became ill , or 72 hours after your fever has resolved and symptoms are improving, whichever is longer.

   - Older adults and those with underlying chronic conditions, like heart disease, lung disease, and diabetes, are at higher risk for getting very sick if they contract COVID-19. Be aware of those on your staff or those you serve who may be in this category, and help them be vigilant about avoiding crowds, maintaining social distancing, and washing hands.

   - Know the testing guidelines - testing is only indicated for individuals who are at risk of serious illness.

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- Encourage employees or staff to call their health care provider with further questions.
- Stay home if you're sick, and stay away from colleagues if possible.
- Promote hand washing, and ensure hand hygiene supplies are readily available in your building (e.g., hand sanitizer).
- Rotate lunch hours, and limit the numbers allowed in the break room at any one time.
- Frequently clean and disinfect surfaces that you and others share.
- Take advantage of telework – every business that can have employees work remotely should do so immediately. For businesses that cannot have employees work remotely, employers should take proper precautions to keep individuals safe in the workplace. Remain flexible on leave policies, and offer paid sick leave.
- If a staff member who has been working on-site or an on-site client becomes ill with a confirmed case: initially close the facility short-term (e.g., 2- 3 days) to allow for cleaning. This also gives CCDPH time to complete a contact investigation and assess for transmission in the setting. Facility closure may be extended based on the findings of this investigation.
- Take care of yourself and your loved ones.
- Continue to stay informed. Join our weekly calls and visit our website for updates and current resources on COVID-19 at: https://www.cookcountypublichealth.org/communicable-diseases/novel-coronavirus/

RESOURCES:
Cook County COVID-19 information: https://www.cookcountypublichealth.org/communicable-diseases/novel-coronavirus/

CCDPH COVID-19 hotline: 9 am – 4 pm every day at 708-633-3319.

Text updates - text "AlertCook" to 888777 (autocorrect may try to make the text into two words. It must be texted as one word to sign up).

CCDPH COVID-19 Email: CCDPH.covid@cookcountyhhs.org

Governor Pritzker's Executive Order #10: https://www2.illinois.gov/Pages/Executive-Orders/ExecutiveOrder2020-10.aspx

Small businesses can apply for up to $2 million low-interest federal emergency loans through the U.S. Small Business Administration: https://www2.illinois.gov/dceo/SmallBizAssistance/Pages/Coronavirus-Disease-2019-(COVID-19)-Information-for-Small-Business.aspx

Workers can sign up for expanded unemployment insurance benefits without waiting a week after losing their jobs: https://www2.illinois.gov/ides/Pages/COVID-19-and-Unemployment-Benefits.aspx

Information on waivers to increase availability and flexibility within IL SNAP programs: https://www.dhs.state.il.us/page.aspx?item=123118

United Way is administering the COVID-19 Community Response and Recovery Fund: https://www.chicagocovid19responsefund.org/

Housing rights and rental assistance resources –

- Metropolitan Tenants Organization: https://www.tenants-rights.org/
- CEDA: https://www.cedaorg.net/
- South Suburban Housing Center: http://southsuburbanhousingcenter.org/

Volunteer requests - Serve Illinois: https://www2.illinois.gov/sites/serve/Disaster/Pages/default.aspx

Find a Federally Qualified Health Center: https://findahealthcenter.hrsa.gov/

Cook County Health Physician Finder: https://cookcountyhealth.org/