

CCI COVID-19 Update 2020-7-17

This Week's Resources for COVID-19



Governor Polis Announces Statewide Mask Order

DENVER - Governor Jared Polis today announced a [Statewide mask order](#), directing Coloradans to wear a face covering while indoors. This Executive Order goes into effect at midnight tonight. The Governor also provided an update on the State's response to COVID-19.

"Wearing a mask is an easy and highly effective way to significantly reduce the spread of COVID-19. The more we wear masks, the safer we will be and the stronger our economy will grow," said Governor Jared Polis. "Unfortunately, this pandemic is far from over, cases are up, and we have to find a way to live sustainably while protecting ourselves and those around us. Masks are the ticket to the Colorado we love and a critical part of supporting Colorado's economy and prosperity. The best way to support Colorado workers and businesses right now is to wear a mask. I've said this from the beginning, and it's still true today: together, we will get through this."

Coloradans older than 10 years old must wear a face covering over their nose and mouth when entering or moving within any public indoor space. A public indoor space is defined as any enclosed indoor area that is publicly or privately owned, managed or operated to which individuals have access by right or by invitation, expressed or implied, and that is accessible to the public, serves as a place of employment, or is an entity providing services.

Public Indoor Space does not mean a person's residence, including a room in a motel or hotel or a residential room for students at an educational facility. This includes wearing a face covering while using or waiting to use the services of any taxi, bus, light rail, train, car service, ride-sharing or similar service, or Mass Transportation Operations. Individuals 10 years old and younger, and those who cannot medically tolerate a face covering are exempt from this Executive Order.

Individuals performing the following activities are also exempt from the requirements of the Executive Order while the activity is being performed:

- Individuals who are hearing impaired or otherwise disabled or who are communicating with someone who is hearing impaired or otherwise disabled and where the ability to see the mouth is essential to communication;
- Individuals who are seated at a food service establishment;
- Individuals who are exercising alone or with others from the individual's household and a face covering would interfere with the activity;
- Individuals who are receiving a personal service where the temporary removal of the face covering is necessary to perform the service;
- Individuals who enter a business or receive services and are asked to temporarily remove a face covering for identification purposes;
- Individuals who are actively engaged in a public safety role such as law enforcement, firefighters, or emergency medical personnel;
- Individuals who are officiating at a religious service; or
- Individuals who are giving a speech for broadcast or an audience.

To protect workers, customers, and the community, no business serving the public in a Public Indoor Space may provide service to a customer or allow a customer to enter or move within that Public Indoor Space, unless the customer is wearing a face covering. "Any individual who knowingly enters or remains in a Public Indoor Space in violation of the terms of this Executive Order may be subject to civil or criminal penalties, including but not limited to prosecution for trespass," reads the Executive Order.

Face Masks and Disabilities

As the use of face masks becomes more and more the norm (and now required in the State of Colorado), we're hearing many questions and concerns about the rights of people with disabilities who are unable to wear face masks. At this point, even [medical clinicians are unsure](#) when masking exemptions are appropriate.

Here are a couple of resources that I found helpful in understanding the nuances. Note that USA Today is not the type of source I usually try to reference in these newsletters, but I thought this particular article did a good job of summarizing the issues surrounding ADA and mask wearing. I recommend checking out the source material. To date the US Department of Justice has offered little clarification other than [debunking the fake face mask flyers](#) under circulation. So, it is up to the rest of us to assess how the ADA applies in this unprecedented situation.

Stay safe and healthy,
Tara Kiene, President/CEO

The ADA and Face Mask Policies

Fact Check: ADA and Face Masks (USA Today)

Walk n' Roll

1st Annual Event

PARTICIPATE | DONATE | SHARE

Sunday, July 26th

10a - 12p

Join us virtually!

Join us for a virtual fundraiser as we walk and roll throughout Southwest Colorado to fundraise to support the disabled and aging populations with opportunities for independent living.

Register at www.swindependence.org

Be sure to complete the whole form, so you're eligible for prizes!

Requested Registration Donation - \$10



Southwest Center for Independence



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[Register to Walk 'N Roll Here!](http://www.swindependence.org)



Need PPE?

Community Connections recently received a donation of some PPE from the Global Down Syndrome Foundation and the Arc Thrift Store. We have cotton masks, surgical masks, and gloves. If you need PPE, especially face masks, please let us know! Call 970-259-2464 or cci@cci-colorado.org. We have you covered!

Check our Website for COVID-19 Resources and CCI Service Updates

As always, contact us at 970-259-2464 or cci@cci-colorado.org with questions or to contact a member of the administration. Stay healthy and safe!

Community Connections, Inc. | communityconnectionscolorado.org

