



What if Someone in Church has Covid-19?

Have a plan in place for what you will do. The following steps from the Western PA Conference Abundant Health Team are based on CDC Guidelines for Faith-Based and Community Organizations
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/faith-based.html>

PLAN FOR WHEN A STAFF MEMBER OR CONGREGANT BECOMES SICK

- Identify an area to separate anyone who exhibits [symptoms](#) of COVID-19 during hours of operation, and ensure that children are not left without adult supervision.
- Establish procedures for safely transporting anyone who becomes [sick](#) at the facility to their home or a healthcare facility.
- Notify local health officials if a person diagnosed with COVID-19 has been in the facility and communicate with staff and congregants about potential exposure while maintaining confidentiality as required by the [Americans with Disabilities Act \(ADA\)](#) or other applicable laws and in accordance with religious practices.
- Advise those with [exposure](#) to a person diagnosed with COVID-19 to [stay home and self-monitor](#) for symptoms, and [follow CDC guidance](#) if symptoms develop.
- Close off areas used by the [sick](#) person and do not use the area until after cleaning and disinfection. Ensure [safe and correct application](#) of disinfectants and keep disinfectant products away from children.
- Advise staff and congregants with [symptoms](#) of COVID-19 or who have tested positive for COVID-19 not to return to the facility until they have met CDC's criteria to [discontinue home isolation](#).

COMMUNICATION SYSTEMS

- Put systems in place to:
Encourage staff and members who come to your facility or attend events sponsored by your organization to self-report to a designated point of contact if they have [symptoms](#) of COVID-19, a positive test for COVID-19, or were exposed to someone with COVID-19 within the last 14 days in accordance with health information sharing regulations for COVID-19.

CLEANING AND DISINFECTING YOUR BUILDING OR FACILITY IF SOMEONE IS SICK

- **Close off areas** used by the person who is sick.
 - Companies do not necessarily need to close operations if they can close off affected areas.
- **Open outside doors and windows** to increase air circulation in the area.
- **Wait 24 hours** before you clean or disinfect. If 24 hours is not feasible, wait as long as possible.
- Clean and disinfect **all areas used by the person who is sick**, such as offices, bathrooms, common areas, shared electronic equipment like tablets, touch screens, keyboards, remote controls, and ATM machines.
- [Vacuum the space if needed](#). Use vacuum equipped with high-efficiency particulate air (HEPA) filter, if available.
 - Do not vacuum a room or space that has people in it. Wait until the room or space is empty to vacuum, such as at night, for common spaces, or during the day for private rooms.
 - Consider temporarily turning off room fans and the central HVAC system that services the room or space, so that particles that escape from vacuuming will not circulate throughout the facility.
- Once area has been **appropriately disinfected, it can be opened for use**.
 - **Workers without close contact** with the person who is sick can return to work immediately after disinfection.
- If it has been **more than 7 days** since the person who is sick visited or used the facility, additional cleaning and disinfection is not necessary.
 - Continue routine cleaning and disinfection. This includes everyday practices that businesses and communities normally use to maintain a healthy environment.