



Morton Education Service Center
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Maria Edelberg, Ed.D
Executive Director

November 6, 2020

Dear Staff,

Thank you for your ongoing support and implementation of the DCIU Health and Safety Plan. Your efforts and diligence in implementation with fidelity is a key factor on the ongoing success at DCIU and DCTS. As you might be aware, the COVID-19 incidence rates across our country and in Pennsylvania are on the rise. As previously communicated, DCIU meets regularly with the Chester County Health Department and medical experts from CHOP and the University of Pennsylvania. Currently, our programs are not seeing "linked transmission" of COVID-19. Linked transmission means individuals within the same building are spreading the virus. Our experts believe strongly that our health and safety protocols are working well, and this is a key reason there has not been linked transmissions. They reinforced that we should continue to do what we are doing in regard to stacking health precautions, monitoring close contacts, and quarantining when required.

We continue to need your help! First and foremost, if you have symptoms of COVID-19 or are ill, please stay home. It is greatly appreciated you are adhering to this even though many want to come to school to support our students. You have followed this protocol diligently, and it is helping. **We must continue to wear our masks faithfully in our programs and in our administrative offices.** Please remember to **socially distance whenever feasible.** We know these are important strategy to help mitigate the spread of the virus. It is important to reinforce that our behaviors outside of work and school are paramount to keeping everyone safe. All of our actions, whether at work or at home, contribute to our ability to implement strong mitigation strategies.

With holidays fast approaching, it is important to consider one's activities. The Center for Disease Control (CDC) recommends that celebrating virtually or with members of your own household poses low risk for spread. They also recommend limiting the number of individuals who plan to gather, socially distance from one another, wash hands, and wear a mask. For full review of CDC guidelines on holiday celebrations go to <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/daily-life-coping/holidays.html>. If staff plan to travel out of the county or a high-risk state, please notify your supervisor upon return. DCIU will consider each situation on a case by case basis.

We need your continue support to *walk with us* for the benefit of our children, families, and staffs. Again, thank you for all of your efforts and commitment to the Health and Safety Plan.

Sincerely,



Maria Edelberg