

2021 Love Begins Here Milwaukee COVID Plans & Related Policies

Updated: May 21, 2021

Start Time: Sunday/Monday Evenings - 5:00 – 6:00pm (dinner included)

End Time: Friday Morning – 11:00am (lunch not included)

Summer 2021 LBH COVID Notes

- We will follow local protocols for masking and social distancing in addition to any policies in place at our host parishes. Particular policies will be emailed to families on the Wednesday before their mission week begins so families know ahead of time. This also allows us to be up to date on any changes.
- As a general rule, on Love Begins Here masks will be optional unless social distancing is not possible (i.e. in vehicles). Social distancing will be encouraged and outside activities will still be prioritized.
- Anyone who would feel more comfortable wearing a face covering is encouraged to do so! All missionaries will be expected to respect those individual decisions and preferences during the week.
- Each week's capacity will be determined by the available classroom space for sleeping and capacity of indoor seating while social distancing.
- Thorough cleaning and sanitation standards will be in place.
- Missionaries who are exhibiting COVID-19 symptoms or are under a quarantine period for COVID-19 will not be able to join the mission field until their quarantine period ends or they present a negative COVID test to Love Begins Here staff.

Health Screen & Missionaries with COVID-19 Symptoms

- All missionaries (teens and adults) must complete a health screen prior to arrival at the host site. This electronic form will be emailed to all families by Love Begins Here the week before their mission week and will need to be completed before arriving on the mission field. It will also ask missionaries to agree to Love Begins Here's policies in this document.
- When a missionary exhibits COVID-19 symptoms during a mission week, they will be separated from their group. Parents will be notified to pick them up as soon as possible.
 - Missionaries will be asked to get a rapid COVID-19 test as soon as possible and notify Love Begins Here of the results. A negative test result will allow them to return to the program.
 - The symptomatic missionary's car group and any close contacts will be allowed to stay at Love Begins Here separated from the main group pending the test results of the symptomatic missionary. If the symptomatic missionary tests positive, these close contacts will also be sent home. If the symptomatic missionary tests negative, these close contacts will be allowed to rejoin the main group.
- When a missionary exhibits COVID-19 symptoms after their week (up to 72 hours), they will be asked to get a rapid COVID-19 test and inform Love Begins Here of the results. Love Begins Here will notify families if a missionary has tested positive while respecting the privacy of that missionary.

Missionary Car Groups & Work Sites

- Missionaries will stay grouped in their parish group and remain in the same driving group for the week.
 - Parish group leaders will create car groups prior to Love Begins Here.
 - Because car groups are created by parish leaders, individual parish groups may decide to have fewer teens in each vehicle. Love Begins Here will permit vehicles to be at full capacity.
- All car groups will be equipped with PPE materials and encouraged to sanitize throughout the day.
- Masks should be worn while in vehicles at all times with windows rolled down as much as possible.
- Outdoor and nearby work assignments will be prioritized, with indoor work only occurring at organizations following CDC guidelines and where social distancing can be maintained.

Meals

- Meals will be eaten outside as weather allows. When inside, meals will be eaten in parish groups.
- All food preparation will follow food safety standards with increased attention to cleanliness and wearing gloves. Meals are prepared and served by Love Begins Here staff.
- Each missionary should bring their own water bottle for the week; refilling stations will be available throughout the week and will be sanitized regularly.

Host Sites & Sleeping Arrangements

- Love Begins Here staff will sanitize surfaces and bathrooms regularly.
- Wake-up & Bedtime bathroom use will be staggered by parish group.
- Missionaries will sleep in same-gendered rooms with sleeping areas spaced 6' apart or further where facilities and supervision allow.

Sleeping At Home

- Missionaries who prefer to sleep at home are welcome to do so. In this instance, families must be comfortable with the following:
 - It is the individual family's responsibility to arrange transportation back and forth from the host site each day. Teens must be transported by their adult guardian each day.
 - Drop off time each morning will be between 7:15 and 7:30am (daily Mass time pending); pick up time each night will be at 9:30pm.
 - We highly encourage missionaries to not use their phones during their time at home. (This both reinforces the LBH policy of no cell phones, but it will also ensure that they are resting up for another busy day on the mission field.)
- For missionaries who sleep at home, the arrival health screen (see above) must be completed by a guardian before their arrival each morning.
- Families who choose this route must fill out an additional form before arrival.
- Lead missionaries *may* be allowed to sleep at home, pending adequate adult supervision for teens.
- **Any missionary who chooses this option should communicate with their parish leader and Love Begins Here staff to assist with planning sleeping areas.**

Cancellation/Refund Policy

- A missionary may cancel their registration for Love Begins Here **through Friday, June 4**. After this date, registrations and missionary fees are nonrefundable and nontransferable.
- Refunds will be given through the FIRST day a session begins for a cancellation due to illness (including COVID-19 diagnosis), health department direction to quarantine because of COVID-19 exposure, injury, or a family emergency.
 - Outside of these circumstances, missionaries will be permitted to transfer their registration to another week of Love Begins Here in 2021 as space allows.