BAY AREA OLDER ADULTS | EXPAND YOUR WORLD

Bay Area Older Adults' COVID-19 Safety Plan

Background: Bay Area Older Adults is a home-office-based nonprofit organization that improves the health of adults age 50+ through outdoor educational walking programs in parks throughout Santa Clara County. We do NOT have a facility where personnel or customers visit or receive services. We organize small groups of adults (as per county guidelines) to meet in a park or transport them to a park (visually impaired, blind and bereaved adults), where we lead an environmental education walk. We use park facilities such as the parking lots and restrooms. We will not use the picnic tables, instead we will have each person bring their own folding chair or BAO will provide chairs for those who need them.

PERSONNEL

We have one full time paid staff and one full time volunteer who work in the home office who are from the same household. The rest of the personnel are volunteers and they act as hike guides that do either nature interpretation or are there for safety reasons. All activities that involve personnel from more than one household occur outdoors. There will be three-to-four personnel at each walk.

Training: Prior to resuming our programs, staff and volunteers shall receive and review the Social Distancing Protocol document and attend mandatory virtual training based on CDC and Santa Clara County guidelines. The training shall cover:
1) how to prevent COVID-19 from spreading and when to seek medical attention;
2) to self-screen for COVID-19 symptoms, get tested if symptomatic or if they have been in contact with someone diagnosed with COVID-19;
3) to follow county guidelines for when it is safe to return to work if they are symptomatic or if they have tested positive for COVID-19;
4) the need for frequent hand washing with soap and water, use of sanitizer as necessary, proper use of face coverings, the importance of social distancing and disinfecting any shared equipment using products on the EPA approved list;
5) encouragement to get tested, County COVID-19 testing locations; and
6) reporting noncompliance with our Social Distancing protocol document.

PPE: PPE such as disposable gloves, safety glasses, face shields, face masks and hand sanitizer shall be provided as needed.

CUSTOMERS & PERSONNEL

Customers: There will be no more than nine blind and visually impaired or bereaved customers attending each walk. For other groups of seniors, we will organize small groups as per county guidelines.

Transportation: For walks that include van transportation to the park, the van will be treated with disinfectant before use. We will follow all related Necessary Precautions described below during transportation. For example, in order to maintain a six-foot distance between blind, visually impaired and bereaved customers, we will use two vans to transport nine customers.

Safety Reminders: Two days before each group hike, an email will be sent to ask customers and personnel that covers the information below.

1. Each person will be asked to perform a COVID-19 symptom check. If they are aware of being exposed to COVID-19 or are showing symptoms, they must not attend.

2. Remind them of all the necessary precautions listed below that shall be enforced by BAO personnel.
3. Remind them to bring their own face coverings, water, tissues, trekking poles, name tags and folding chair. Note: If customers need face coverings and folding chairs, BAO will supply them.

Check in on day of event. Each customer is checked in which means they state their name so personnel can check them off a list. All customers and personnel shall be subject to temperature checks upon arrival and will be sent home if their temperature is above 99 degrees. They must respond to a symptom questionnaire by a show of hands. The Necessary Precautions listed below shall be reiterated at check-in.

NECESSARY PRECAUTIONS

1. Maintain a minimum of six-foot distance between people when hiking, picnicking, in line for the restrooms and within vans
2. Sneeze or cough into a tissue or if not available into elbow
3. Wear face coverings at all times except while drinking or eating
4. No shaking hands or engaging in any unnecessary physical contact
5. Frequently wash your hands with soap and water or if unavailable, alternatively the use FDA approved hand sanitizer supplied by BAO especially prior to eating lunch, after using restroom and before leaving the event.

Group Size & Contact Tracing. Hiking group size shall comply with county guidelines. We shall collect contact information as part of registration and can provide as needed.