



## **Rebuilding COVID-19 Informed Consent Agreement (LOCAL VOLUNTEER) 7.13.20 Version**

(Church of the Brethren) Brethren Disaster Ministries BDM is aware and constantly monitoring the COVID-19 pandemic especially as it affects and relates to how we can facilitate our rebuilding program. This will require great changes to our standard operating procedures for many months to keep all volunteers, homeowners, and local partners safe and to not add burden to the local communities still recovering.

When project suspensions can be lifted and travel restrictions will allow for volunteers to serve on our sites, the safety and preparedness precautions at our sites will be updated greatly and very thorough. Volunteers who travel to our sites **MUST comply with ALL these precautions** when on a BDM project. **If you feel you are not able to comply or are not comfortable serving under these circumstances, you should not travel to volunteer with BDM Rebuilding at this time.**

*BDM will be monitoring the COVID-19 situation and changes, or cancellations may be made based on travel restrictions or guidance changes and conversations with local partners. **BDM is not responsible for non-refundable travel expenses if cancellations occur due to COVID-19.***

These **COVID-19 facts** from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) are the basis for our caution and volunteers must be aware of them.

- The virus is thought to spread mainly from person to person.
- Recent studies indicate that people who are infected but do not have symptoms play a role in the continued spread of COVID-19.
- There is currently no vaccine to prevent coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19).
- The best way to prevent illness is to avoid being exposed to this virus.
- People 65 and older and people with severe chronic health conditions, such as heart or lung disease, and diabetes, are at higher risk of developing more serious illness from COVID-19.

Source: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/index.html>

**COVID-19 Symptoms** – Any of the following symptoms may appear 2 to 14 days after exposure:

Fever, coughing, shortness of breath and difficulty breathing, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, new loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, nausea or vomiting, and diarrhea.

Emergency warning signs needing immediate medical attention include, but are not limited to, difficulty breathing or shortness of breath; persistent pain or pressure in the chest; new confusion or inability to arouse; and bluish lips or face.

### **COVID-19 Procedure for Sickness -**

If a local volunteer in a group on a BDM site should exhibit symptoms of COVID-19:

1. The person must return home immediately and will not be permitted to volunteer again until he or she has had resolution of a fever without the use of fever-reducing medications, improvement in respiratory symptoms (e.g., cough, shortness of breath), AND documentation of a negative COVID-19 test result.
2. Project Leadership will share local instructions on seeking care and obtaining testing and the District Disaster Coordinator (DDC) will be notified. BDM Leadership reserves the right to send an entire group home in the case of a volunteer exhibiting serious symptoms.

If someone in a group should test positive for COVID-19:

1. The person testing positive must immediately notify BDM leadership.
2. The whole group they came in contact with will return home immediately to quarantine for 14 days.
3. Project Leadership who were in contact with the person will quarantine for 14 days and the volunteers scheduled for the following 2 weeks will be cancelled.
4. Project leadership will collect a contact tracing list for that week that includes all of the members in the group, leadership, and homeowners, partners, or others who had any contact of at least 15 minutes

with any volunteers and public places that volunteers have been. Leadership will notify all of those outside of BDM of any potential contact and cooperation with state or local health depts as needed.

### **Required personal safety measures**

The following items are a general overview of personal safety measures for current BDM sites and volunteers before they arrive. Additional protocol will also take place at each location and will be shared upon arrival.

### **Before Traveling to the Project**

All volunteers should **not leave home if:**

1. They are exhibiting symptoms of **any illness** before departure. Volunteers are recommended to monitor their temperature 3 days prior to working and to not serve if it has been above 100 degree during any of these checks.
2. They have been in contact with someone in the last 14 days who has tested positive or is waiting on a test result for COVID-19 or is experiencing symptoms of COVID-19.
3. There is a Stay at Home order in effect in their home region, or they have traveled in the last 14 days to an area that is considered a hot spot with a high or growing COVID-19 metrics.
4. They are not comfortable traveling or observing ALL the safety protocols listed below when on a BDM rebuilding sites.

We know it is disappointing for the volunteer to have to cancel their volunteering, but it is better for them not to go than to share their illness on the site.

### **Precautions on Site**

- Physical distancing of at least 6 feet apart should always be observed when around other people.
- When the minimum of six feet apart is not possible outdoors, volunteers must wear face coverings. (e.g. Siding, team lifting, etc.). Face coverings may always be required outdoors depending on the location and local COVID-19 restrictions or requirements.
- Volunteers must wear face coverings over their nose and mouth when indoors including in the housing facility, in vehicles, on the job sites, and when entering local businesses. When eating or drinking, etc., they must be at least 6 feet apart before removing a mask to do so. Face coverings will be provided but volunteers are encouraged to bring their preference from home to be used while traveling to the site (valve N95 not permitted).
- Frequently wash hands for 20 seconds and/or wipe off gloves with a cleaning wipe while on the job site and especially before removing your mask or touching your face.
- When running water and soap are not available use hand sanitizer containing at least 60% alcohol.
- Gloves are strongly recommended on the job site unless the task prohibits this (e.g. nailing siding) and are provided by BDM if the volunteer does not bring a pair from home.
- BDM will provide touchless thermometers and all volunteers and leaders will have their temperatures read each morning and afternoon. This will be recorded and monitored by BDM project leadership.
- Groups and individuals will not be permitted to travel if there are Stay at Home orders in the location of the BDM rebuilding site and/or the home of the volunteers.
- Coughing or sneezing must be done into the elbow.
- Volunteers should avoid touching their face as much as possible and should wash their hands with soap and water or use hand sanitizer before touching any part of their face.
- Volunteers should report any symptoms of any illness to leadership immediately or if they have tested positive for COVID-19 within 14 days after volunteering.

By my signature below, I acknowledge that I am voluntarily agreeing to participate as a BDM volunteer with knowledge of the danger involved. I hereby agree to accept and assume all risks of personal injury, illness, disability, death, or property damage or any other injury, arising from my serving as a volunteer, whether caused by the negligence of BDM or otherwise. I hereby expressly waive and release any and all claims, now known or hereafter known, against BDM, and its officers, directors, employees, agents, volunteers, affiliates, owners, successors, and assigns (collectively, "Releasees"), on account of injury, illness, disability, death, or property damage arising out of or attributable to participating as a BDM volunteer, whether arising out of the negligence of

BDM or any Releasees or otherwise. I covenant not to make or bring any such claim against BDM or any other Releasee, and forever release and discharge BDM and all other Releasees from liability under such claims.

**I, \_\_\_\_\_ have read and agree to abide by the all above mentioned safety procedures at all times when on a BDM Rebuilding site. If I do not, I know I can be required to return home.**

**Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_**

I am the parent or legal guardian of the minor named above. I have the legal right to consent and, by signing below, I hereby do consent to the terms and conditions of this Informed Consent Agreement.

Signed:

\_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name of Parent or Legal Guardian:

\_\_\_\_\_

Address:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_