

PATHWAYS ABILITIES SOCIETY

POLICY: SICK PERSON RECEIVING SERVICE

Applies to: All Personnel, Volunteers, Persons Served, Families, Advocates and Caregivers

Original Approval Date: April 28, 2003

Date Board Approved: October 23, 2023

Replaces Policy Dated: February 27, 2023

Board Member's Signature

POLICY

In order to protect the health and welfare of the individuals, employees and community, Pathways Abilities Society will not allow individuals to attend or remain at a service if the supervisor deems them too sick. Families and caregivers must have alternative backups available. This does not apply to Pathway's homes.

Individuals are strongly encouraged to stay at home to prevent the spread of illness. An individual who is too sick to participate in regularly scheduled activities or spend time outside is too sick to attend services. They must call and inform staff that they will not be attending.

Individuals must stay home if they have and be free of the following symptoms before returning:

- Fever: 38.3 degrees Celsius (100.4F) or over – may return when fever has remained at 37 degrees Celsius (98.6 F) for 24 hours without the aid of medication.
- Diarrhea: This includes watery or greenish bowel movements that look unusual and more frequent than usual. Must be symptom-free for 48 hours and have one solid bowel movement.
- Vomiting: can return after 48 hours of the last bout of sickness
- Acute Cold: Contagious with obvious discharge of infected green or reddish-brown mucus. Individuals may return when discharge has subsided.
- Cough: 3-5 times per hour, especially if choking and/or vomiting accompanies the cough. Individuals may return when the coughing has subsided.
- Communicable Diseases: Communicable diseases such as chicken pox and measles must be reported to staff as soon as they are diagnosed. The duration of the individual's treatment and exclusion from services will depend on the Health Authorities Communicable Disease recommendations.
- Infected Skin or Eyes: A doctor must examine undiagnosed skin irritations and provide written medical clearance prior to the individual's return to services. Conjunctivitis (pink eye) is very contagious and must be treated, and the eyes clear before returning.
- Sore Throat: Trouble swallowing.

- Impetigo.
- Earaches and Infections: Untreated ear infections can lead to hearing loss and are potentially infectious. We encourage individuals to see a Doctor for direction and require they stay home for a minimum of 48 hours with or without antibiotic medication. This allows for the individual to be monitored and assessed.
- Lice: Individuals may return once they have been treated with an effective lice treatment and all lice and nits have been combed or picked out of hair. Follow-up shampooing must be administered to complete treatment.

Due to the vulnerable nature of the individuals we support and to ensure we have healthy and adequate staffing available, if a person attending services has significant contact with or are residing with someone with a confirmed contagious illness, they cannot attend services. They cannot return until all members of the household tests negative and/ or they no longer have symptoms.

Homes

Individuals who are deemed not well notify the supervisor, Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN), or their designate. The supervisor, LPN, or designate determines the course of action to be taken, which could include scheduling a doctor's appointment, immediate medical attention, etc.

If a person's temperature is taken, the reading is documented in the person's Notables.