

# COVID-19

## Info for Youth Shelter/Group Home Staff

While older adults are at higher risk of getting COVID-19, youth can get it as well. Here's what you need to know to help support and protect your clients from COVID-19. Review the [AHS Shelter Guidance: Preventing, Controlling and Managing COVID-19 document](#) for more information.

### Preventing Illness

- Staff and visitors must be **screened daily** for signs and symptoms of COVID-19.
- Observe clients for new or changing symptoms. They may not be as pronounced in youth.
- Ensure hygiene products like soap, tissues and approved hand sanitizer are readily available.
- If needed, order PPE and hand sanitizer at [xnet.gov.ab.ca/ppe](http://xnet.gov.ab.ca/ppe).
- Provide updates at team meetings or at shift change.

### Helping Youth Stay Healthy

- The most effective way to prevent the spread of COVID-19 is through proper hand hygiene, respiratory etiquette, physical distancing, enhanced cleaning and daily screening.
- Help youth feel connected to others by facilitating communication where appropriate or possible.
- Be aware of how COVID-19 has affected location or hours of operation services used by clients (e.g., health care services).

### How to Report

- **Call the COVID-19 Coordinated Response Line 1-844-343-0971** if:
  - You have a client or staff member with COVID-19 symptoms or a confirmed case.
  - You need assistance or guidance in managing symptomatic clients or staff.
- Follow-up with the site leader.

### If Someone Gets Sick

- Common symptoms of COVID-19 are:
  - **Fever**
  - **Cough**
  - **Shortness of breath / hard time breathing**
  - **Sore throat**
  - **Runny nose**
- Less common symptoms are: chills, painful swallowing, stuffy nose, headache, muscle/joint ache, generally feeling unwell, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, loss of appetite, loss of sense of smell or taste, and pink eye.
- The list of symptoms may continue to change. Visit [ahs.ca/covid](http://ahs.ca/covid) regularly for the most current list and the [AHS COVID-19 Self-Assessment Tool](#).
- Anyone with symptoms **MUST** self-isolate for 10 days from when they start feeling sick, until symptoms are gone, whichever is longer.
- If a client has a medical emergency (e.g., chest pain, severe difficulty breathing, etc.), call **911**.



Visit [ahs.ca/covid](http://ahs.ca/covid) for more information.