

Follow-Up Guidance for Caritas SCSEP Concerning Covid-19

Per U.S. DOL's guidance following President Trump's declaration of a National Emergency; SSAI has updated its SCSEP sick leave policies to now include Emergency Paid Sick Leave.

Effective immediately, even if a host agency is open, SCSEP participants are NOT permitted to report because, per the CDC, the age of SCSEP participants puts them at extreme "high risk" from COVID-19.

Participants will be paid the appropriate wage, and the participants' weekly hours during emergency paid leave shall be equal to their weekly hours at the time SSAI authorized Emergency Paid Sick Leave (20 hours per week @ \$9.25/hour, effective March 16, 2020).

Participants will remain on Emergency Paid Sick Leave until further notice from SSAI.

If SCSEP participants experience any impact from the coronavirus, please email: scsep@caritasfamily.org or scsephelp@ssa-i.org with detailed information about the impact.

Specifically, if your organization is ordered to quarantine by local, state or other authorities, please email scsep@caritasfamily.org or SSAI at scsephelp@ssa-i.org promptly.

If Caritas SCSEP or SSAI's HQ is advised or ordered to quarantine by local, state or other authorities, all participants will be notified via email. We will continue to communicate with you via telephone and email regarding any issues/updates, etc.

Please feel free to contact our office at 618-688-1180 should you have additional comments or concerns. We appreciate your understanding and support during this unprecedented time.

A Message from Caritas C.E.O.



I hope you and your families are staying healthy and safe! I know this is a very stressful and uncertain time for everyone. Being that social distancing guidelines have been extended by the president and the Governor through the end of April, at least, we will continue to operate as we currently are operating with a modified schedule and work from home, whenever possible, until further notice.

This will support our efforts to maximize the health and safety of both our staff and clients. I have heard of many instances of families utilizing this time of extended togetherness to strengthen bonds and appreciate the small things in life again.

I encourage all of you to do the same. Please continue to be healthy and safe and take care of yourselves and your family!

-Gary Huelsmann,
C.E.O. Caritas Family Solutions

Senior Community Service Employment Program

Providing job training and placement for individuals age 55 or older with limited financial resources and to provide employers with trained, motivated workers.

FROM THE MANAGER'S DESK



by Gary D. Woods
SCSEP Program Mgr.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic we are experiencing, now more than ever, we are reminded of the importance of the SCSEP program to our participants and our communities. We all must come together to support each other, our host agencies, and our participants through this difficult and uncertain time.

Here are a few basic tips to protect yourself and help prevent spreading the virus to others:
Wash your hands regularly for 20 seconds, with soap and water or alcohol-based hand rub
Cover your nose and mouth with a disposable tissue or flexed elbow when you cough or sneeze
Stay home and self-isolate from others as much as possible
Be safe, stay prayerful, and take care of yourself and family!

