

Safe Practices and Physical Distancing at Emergency Feeding Locations



Employees and volunteers

- Follow your normal safe food handling practices when preparing meals.
- Practice physical distancing in the kitchen.
- Wear a cloth face covering when around others.
- Individually package meals in the prep kitchen to avoid any food handling at the delivery site.
- If transporting food that needs to:
 - Stay cold, use coolers or ice during transportation.
 - Stay hot, use hot boxes or Cambros during transportation.
- Practice physical distancing when handing out or delivering meals. Aim for 6 feet of separation.
- Remember to wash your hands with soap and water when you finish your shift.
- Monitor your health closely. If you begin experiencing any symptoms associated with COVID-19 (fever, cough, shortness of breath), stay home and don't come to the meal site.

Drive-thru service

Establish a route that encourages safety and efficiency. If available, use the bus loop with the entrance and exit clearly marked. Staff should maintain maximum physical distancing while handing meals to the recipient through the car window. If you can't maintain 6 feet distance, use a walk-up service model instead.

Walk-up service

Create physical distancing between your staff and children picking up meals. Set up a large table between employees and volunteers to create separation. Place the meal on the table, step back, then ask the child to step forward to child pick up the meal. Aim for 6 feet of separation. Place only the required number of meals on the table to avoid children from touching other meals. Disinfect the table if someone touches it.

Delivery service

If you deliver meals to a pick-up site and you can't use a table, create separation with a cooler or container. Ask children to line up, step forward one at a time to pick up their meal, then leave. If possible, provide hand sanitizer at the meal site location. Use frequently and encourage children to sanitize their hands at the site.

Reminders while providing meals

- Remind children not to linger. Have children pick up their meals and leave the site immediately.
- If you have a high-volume site, encourage families to stand at least 6 feet apart or the length of two outstretched arms.
- Remind children to take steps to protect themselves:
 - Wash hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
 - Avoid touching eyes, nose or mouth.
 - Avoid close contact with sick people.
 - Use a tissue or elbow to cover your mouth and nose when you sneeze or cough. Throw used tissues in the trash and wash your hands.
 - Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces.
 - Stay home and away from others when you're sick.

Encourage people to contact their primary healthcare provider if they appear ill or are concerned about their health. Only physicians can determine if a person should be tested for COVID-19.

For more information on COVID-19, visit www.tpchd.org/coronavirus.