

## **COVID Update for Summer 2022**

Posted March 2022

As you know, for Summer 2022, we are requiring all age eligible participants, staff, volunteers, and guests on our camp properties to be fully vaccinated and "up to date", as <u>defined by the CDC</u>, against COVID-19. Knowing that our entire age-eligible community will be vaccinated against COVID-19 allows us to also adjust our other mitigation strategies from last summer, and we look forward to returning to a more typical summer experience in many ways. While several parts of our COVID plan are still in development, we want to share what we know now, and how we are approaching the upcoming summer season:

- We know that we all continue to need Camp more than ever before children, teens, young and older adults for the mental, emotional, social and spiritual growth and wellness that it provides. When we weigh the risks and benefits of our policies and procedures, these layers of integrated wellness are an important part of the process.
- We know that by increasing some layers of COVID mitigation, we may decrease others. As we shared this Fall, this year we are requiring "up to date" vaccination (according to CDC's definition) of everyone at camp. At the same time, we are *not* planning to limit our staff's ability to leave camp for their time off this year.
- We know that even with a robust, multi-layered approach to COVID mitigation, we must prepare for containing COVID spread if it does enter camp. The pre-camp strategies we used last year were very effective and we will use similar (though less stringent based on current conditions) methods this year to prevent COVID from entering camp (pre-camp testing regimen, pre-camp COVID behavior *Brit*). At the same time, we will *also* prepare for preventing the spread of COVID at camp.
- We know that while the current COVID context feels hopeful, agility is our greatest asset. We
  will prepare for unexpected changes and be ready to pivot if and when the COVID context
  changes again.

While we all are looking eagerly toward summer, there are still several months between now and the camp season. We will continue to evaluate the current COVID conditions, including community transmission and clinical severity, as we look ahead to the summer season. We will also consider the risks and benefits of our mitigation strategies in terms of how they influence the camp experience for our entire camp community. Please know that the health and wellbeing of our campers and staff has

always been and will remain our top priority as we work to prepare for the summer. This information is based on what we know today. We are deeply committed to open, ongoing, and honest communication with our camp community.

If you have any questions, feel free to reach out to us at <a href="mailto:scitech@urj.org">scitech@urj.org</a> or call 857-246-8677.