



Pandemic Policy Update: April 27th, 2021

As the COVID-19 pandemic enters a new phase, Capitol Hill Village is updating its policies to respond appropriately to the new risks and opportunities. As our community knows, we have chosen to take a conservative approach, understanding that individual members of our community may choose for themselves to take additional risks. This has served us well throughout this difficult year. We have limited certain kinds of activities while significantly increasing other lower risk events, and have actively sought ways to help members remain healthy, connected and engaged within the limits required by social distancing.

We are committed to being inclusive, and ensuring there are programs and activities that are safe for members who are at high risk of illness whether they have been vaccinated or not. We will be experimenting with hybrid programming, determining where it's effective to mix video and in-person engagement, and where we need to select one or the other.

With the introduction of several highly effective vaccines, a high vaccination rate among village members, but high community spread of COVID-19 among unvaccinated area residents, reduced testing rates, and indications of fourth wave activity in surrounding states, the Pandemic Policy Advisory Committee of Capitol Hill Village has recommended that we adopt the following policies and practices for programs and services until further notice:

- 1. Reintroduce in-person gatherings.**

- a. These gatherings will be limited to a maximum of 10 people indoors and 50 outdoors, as currently required by the District government. Registration will be required in order to manage the numbers.
2. **All individuals at CHV gatherings whether indoor or outdoor should wear masks.**
 - a. Gatherings will require social distancing and may be further limited in number depending on the space available.
 - b. Outdoor meetings will be encouraged.
 - c. Hosts of indoor meetings will be expected to open windows or otherwise facilitate increased air circulation to the greatest extent possible.
3. **Proof of member vaccination will not be required; we will operate on an honor system**
 - a. Individuals who are not vaccinated may be excluded from some indoor meetings at the host's discretion (i.e., if someone is hosting in their home, they will be permitted to make vaccination status a criterium for attending but will not be permitted to require proof of vaccination). However, unless those present are at high risk of disease due to underlying health conditions in addition to age, we recognize that unvaccinated individuals are themselves at risk rather than posing a significant risk to those around them who are vaccinated.
 - b. CHV will not be keeping records that indicate whether members are vaccinated.
4. **Volunteers will be asked about their vaccination status.**
 - a. Volunteers will be required to indicate vaccination status if they are going to provide any in-person service during which there may be close contact with members (e.g., driving, in-person visit).

- b. CHV will not share individual volunteer vaccination information with members.
 - c. Unvaccinated volunteers will be allowed to provide non-contact services.
- 5. Staff will resume in-person meetings at the discretion of the staff member and the member(s) with whom they are interacting.**
- a. Use of masks by staff and members is expected regardless of meeting location.
 - b. Capacity at the CHV office will be limited to 10 people at any given time, with no more than 6 people on either floor at any given time.
 - c. Windows should be open and air purifiers running when more than one person is on each floor of the office.

We hope that these guidelines will take us through the next two to three months while we monitor the trends in community spread and vaccination rates. The COVID-19 situation continues to be fluid with critical data released on a regular basis, and these policies will be reviewed and updated as necessary. As always, CHV welcomes your input and feedback as we navigate these unprecedented conditions.