

### BUILD THE RESILIENCE TO THRIVE

# BaMidbar Wilderness Therapy Our Roadmap to Summer 2022

(as of 5/9/2022)

This time last year, we were in the midst of making very difficult decisions on how to run programming in the safest way possible. We moved forward with extremely strict protocols to keep COVID out and contain any possible COVID spread.

As we prepare to begin our summer 2022 programming, we want to update you on our COVID protocols for this summer. BaMidbar operates at Ramah in the Rockies, and is subject to Ramah in the Rockies' COVID-safe practices. As a licensed child-care facility in the state of Colorado and accredited by the American Camping Association, Ramah in the Rockies adheres to the regulations of numerous local, state, and federal agencies and several national programmatic partners too. Ramah in the Rockies consulted with the National Ramah Medical Committee and their own internal COVID committee to create protocols that are in accordance with guidance and rules from the CDC and the Jefferson County Health Department. We expect Jefferson County to release further updates in the coming months that might alter our approach.

## **Our Core Assumptions**

Our COVID strategy is based on the following assumptions and may evolve in the coming months if new strains appear or scientific data changes.

- COVID-19 vaccines remain highly effective against severe infection of the present dominant variant, B.A.2.
- COVID is still present in many of the communities in which our staff and participants live.
- 100% of BaMidbar staff and students are vaccinated against COVID according to the latest CDC guidelines.
- We will take appropriate measures for risk mitigation.

## Before programming begins, to reduce the risk of COVID spread:

- 1. All staff and program participants are required to have had a full series of the COVID vaccine (two mRNA COVID vaccine doses AND a booster if the second dose was administered six months or more prior to arrival OR at least one J&J vaccine plus *at least* one booster.) \*\*There are no exceptions to this rule.\*\*
  - Vaccine cards must be sent to <u>rosesl@bamidbartherapy.org</u> before arrival.
  - All staff and program participants must have a PCR test administered no earlier than 72 hours before arrival. Home-based antigen tests will not suffice.
  - PCR test results must be sent to <u>rosesl@bamidbartherapy.org</u> before arrival.
  - o If you receive a positive test result 72 hours before arrival but can prove that you had COVID at least 7 to 90 days before, your circumstances may still allow for your arrival. Therefore, we highly encourage staff and program participants to have a PCR test administered 10 days before arrival. If you receive positive results 10 days before arrival, please notify BaMidbar. (See below for the window of taking the PCR test.)

 Anyone traveling on an airplane must wear a well-fitting mask in the airport and on the plane throughout their travels, regardless of any change in the Federal mask mandate. Failure to comply might result in being prevented from starting the program.

## To reduce the risk of COVID spread during summer programming:

- 1. Most buildings and tents remain well ventilated. Windows and doors will be kept open whenever possible.
- 2. When going off site, staff and program participants must wear a mask anytime they enter a building/store.
- 3. Staff will not be allowed to partake in any offsite indoor dining during the summer months.
- 4. Mask wearing on site, for members of our community, is optional in most places. Vendors/contractors must wear a mask when working indoors.
- 5. With a fully vaccinated community, we plan to treat COVID and COVID-like symptoms the way we do any other respiratory virus: Individuals with fevers or vomiting, or feeling too unwell to participate in activities will be required to quarantine until they are afebrile, not vomiting or feeling significantly improved for at least 24 hours. Limited testing will only occur if the clinical management of their symptoms will change based on the results of the test.

Our COVID-19 protocols are always subject to change as we continue to monitor COVID-19 rates and efficacy of vaccines against new strains. We certainly hope to run a relatively normal program this summer, and have masking remain optional for all in our community. We will, however, continue to adjust our policies as needed to best meet the safety needs of our community.

As we enter the final stretch leading up to our time together let us remember just how far we have come over the past two years. Let's recall the narrow places in which we have existed for so many of the past 24 months. And let's think about the wide expanse of the Rocky Mountains, and the towering cliffs of Ramah Valley, where we will soon gather.

Thank you for continuing to believe in our mission!

#### With Gratitude,

#### The BaMidbar Wilderness Therapy Team

Jory Hanselman Mayschak, Executive Director, <u>JoryH@BaMidbarTherapy.org</u>
Nick Magle Haberek, Clinical Director, <u>NickMH@BaMidbarTherapy.org</u>
Hayden Lilien, Chief Operating Officer, <u>HaydenL@BaMidbarTherapy.org</u>

www.bamidbartherapy.org 2

PCR TEST DATE RECOMMENDATIONS			
Arrival Date	Recommended First PCR Test Administration Date	Required PCR Test Administration Date	Notes
May 30	May 20	May 27, 28, or 29	Early staff arrival
June 7	May 28	June 4, 5 or 6	Staff Arrival
June 30	June 20	June 27, 28, or 29	Student Arrival
TBD	10 days before arrival	No more than 72 hours before arrival	Late Staff or Student Arrival

<u>www.bamidbartherapy.org</u> 3