



August 17, 2020

Letter to all Lake County Congregate Facilities

RE: Resolution 2020-133 requiring facial masks for all persons entering any residential or long-term care facility

To help ensure the health and safety of all persons entering or residing in residential or long-term care facilities within Lake County, I have signed Resolution 2020-133 (attached), requiring facial mask coverings for all staff and anyone entering one of these facilities. This local emergency order will assist in providing an additional layer of protection and may help reduce the spread of the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19).

This order applies to long-term care facilities regulated by the Agency for Health Care Administration (AHCA), and all group homes regardless of whether they are regulated by ACHA, the Agency for Persons with Disabilities (APD), or the Florida Department of Children and Families (DCF). However, this order does not apply to residents of such facilities who are not required to wear facial masks within their group home settings unless the agency regulating the facility requires them to wear masks, or the facility itself (per its rules or under specific circumstances) requires its residents to wear them.

My goal for this order is to provide education and information to the staff of residential and long-term care facilities to improve the safety practices to protect our most vulnerable population. The Lake County Office of Emergency Management stands ready to answer your questions and provide assistance. Inquiries from facilities can be directed to Lt. David Clark via email at lakecamp@lakecountyfl.gov or via phone at (352) 516-1534.

Thank you for your help, and together we can stop the spread!

Sincerely,

Leslie Campione, Chairman
Lake County Board of County Commissioners

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RESOLUTION NO. 2020-133

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF LAKE COUNTY, FLORIDA; REQUIRING FACIAL MASKS FOR ALL PERSONS ENTERING ANY RESIDENTIAL OR LONG-TERM CARE FACILITY; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, Chapter 252, Florida Statutes, Emergency Management governs Local Emergencies; and

WHEREAS, Lake County is currently under a State of Emergency pursuant to Executive Order No. 20-51, as declared by Governor DeSantis on March 1, 2020; and

WHEREAS, Resolution 2020-29, dated March 16, 2020, of the Board of County Commissioners of Lake County, Florida, declared a local state of emergency in response to the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (“COVID-19”); and

WHEREAS, the local state of emergency has been duly extended every week since its first enactment, with each subsequent extension lasting for an additional seven (7) days; and

WHEREAS, COVID-19 has caused and continues to cause a significant public health emergency; and

WHEREAS, residential and long-term care facilities continue to be a source of virus outbreaks within Lake County; and

WHEREAS, the Agency for Health Care Administration (ACHA) previously issued a mandatory facial mask order for all residential and long-term care facilities within their jurisdiction; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Children & Families (DCF) oversees group homes and facilities that serve children; and

WHEREAS, the Agency for Persons with Disabilities (APD) oversees group homes and facilities that serve persons with disabilities; and

WHEREAS, the Chairman of the Board of County Commissioners of Lake County, Florida, has determined that issuing a local emergency order requiring the use of facial masks in all residential and long-term care facilities will provide an additional layer of protection to residents residing in those facilities and may help reduce the spread of the virus.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Chairman of the Board of County Commissioners of Lake County, Florida, that:

Section 1. Facial Masks Required in all Residential or Long-Term Care Facilities. All staff and anyone entering a residential or long-term care facility must wear a facial mask while in the facility. This order applies to all group homes regardless of whether they are regulated by the DCF, APD or ACHA; provided, however, that residents of such facilities are not required to wear facial masks within their group home settings unless the respective state agency overseeing the facility so requires.

Section 2. Penalties. Facilities and individuals that do not comply with this Order on a consistent basis are subject to monetary fines up to \$500 per occurrence, in accordance with Section 125.69, Florida Statutes, Section 252.47, Florida Statutes, and Section 252.50, Florida Statutes. This Order is enforceable by an any county or municipal law enforcement official, code enforcement official, and emergency management official.

