



6/1/20

Dear Parents and Guardians-

George Floyd's death and the surrounding events in our communities in Iowa have been difficult to watch and to fully comprehend. This feels like a pivotal moment in history. The Campus Management and Therapist Teams have been meeting to determine the best way to communicate these events to the youth while allowing them time to process their feelings and thoughts. We hope to have a plan in place within a couple days for this communication. We will share this messaging with you so you can also continue to support your child with this information. In the meantime, please continue to listen, validate and support your child around this topic.

There have been several peaceful demonstrations in Des Moines this past weekend but also some of these events have turned violent. At Orchard Place, we support Nonviolence as our Number One Sanctuary Commitment. Some of the violent situations have occurred in downtown Des Moines and the north side of Des Moines. For those who are not familiar with Des Moines, each of these areas are approximately 5 and 10 miles from campus. We continue to do all we can to ensure youth safety by having staff follow youth if they do elope from campus and we also have Overnight Security Guard to keep the campus grounds secure.

Here is today's COVID update, which can also be found on the Campus page of the Orchard Place website at:

[https://www.orchardplace.org/services/orchard-place-campus.](https://www.orchardplace.org/services/orchard-place-campus)

1. Parents may now take their youth to off-campus medical or specialty appointments you may have previously had scheduled. Here is the procedure-

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Administrative Office**  
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**Child Guidance Center**  
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Des Moines, Iowa 50309  
Phone: (515) 244-2267  
Fax: (515) 244-1922

**PACE Juvenile Center**  
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Des Moines, Iowa 50309  
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**Orchard Place Foundation**  
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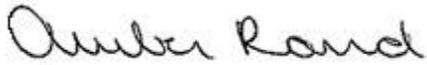
- a) Parents will be asked the COVID screening questions prior to taking your child on the appointment.
- b) The child will wear a mask at all times while off campus for these appointments, this includes in the car, in the medical office, etc.
- c) The mask should only be removed if directed by the medical professional to do so as part of the appointment.
- d) If youth wears the mask the entire time they are off campus, then they will not need to wear a mask when they return.
- e) The child should go only to the appointment and back with no other side trips while out.
- f) The parent will need to coordinate these appointments with campus nursing department.

2. We are also resuming off-campus medical appointments for campus youth as those clinics resume business. We are currently scheduling youth for Women's Health appointments now. We expect the dentist and eye doctor to resume their appointments in 1-2 weeks.

3. We have had some issues with the Samsung phone at Aliber and so at this time, we only have the one iPhone available for video chatting with youth. You can still also communicate with your child via the regular telephone land line. Thanks for your patience with this.

As always, your child's therapist or building supervisor are available to discuss your concerns or questions.

Sincerely,



Amber Rand, LMHC, IAADC  
Campus Vice President



Dr. Stephen R. Mandler  
Chief Medical Officer, Orchard Place  
Board Certified in Child & Adolescent Psychiatry