IHN has adopted the following policies in response to COVID-19

While it is vital that our volunteers continue to come, we want you to know what we are doing and what procedures have been set-up that will keep the house as safe as possible. We have had no illnesses or positive COVID test results for anyone who works for or resides at IHN.

Mask must be worn by anyone who is within 6 feet of another person

- We have educated the families about the virus and steps they need to take to keep their families and the house as safe as possible. Each family has received a packet of information and we have a copy of the packet in the Director's office.
- Temperatures of everyone who enters the building are being taken daily. There is a log form in the guests' attendance log book.
- We are stressing the importance of hand washing to everyone and have signs everywhere about the importance of doing so. Anyone entering the house must wash their hands for at least 20 seconds and wash them frequently.
- We have hand sanitizer, disinfectant spray and wipes available for use.
- We are cleaning the house daily and disinfecting it no less than 3 times a day. Bathrooms are disinfected after every use.
- The fewer the number of volunteers that come at any one time, the better for everyone. It is okay to have 1 or 2 volunteers per shift, but we are discouraging more than 2 at any given time.
- We are asking that all visitors call ahead prior to coming.
- The guests are no longer allowed to have visitors come to the house until this health crisis has passed.
- While volunteers are not prohibited from going upstairs or eating with the families, we recommend that they stay on the first floor in the office and be available to guests on an as needed basis. It is important to have volunteers here in the event that they are needed, but it is not necessary to spend your shift in close contact with anyone. (We have told the families that volunteers will likely stay on the first floor, but that they will be available if needed.)
- We are trying to practice social distancing as much as possible in a house with 4 families and no school or daycare. And as you may imagine it's hard for very young children to understand social distancing and that we can no longer give hugs and kisses, but parents and staff have been consistent in our message to them. We ask that volunteers also help with this, by encouraging children to not hug or kiss and to stay with their parent(s) if they venture away from them. (This one is hard for everyone!)
- We have told the families that they should spread out when eating dinner and that it is OK if they choose to eat in the kitchen (upstairs or downstairs), as well as the dining room.
- We understand these are uncertain times and things will change. We will work to keep everyone informed of any necessary changes that we need to make going forward.
- It is up to all of us as a TEAM to keep everyone including ourselves safe.

DO THE FIVE - Help stop coronavirus

HANDS - Wash them often
ELBOW - Cough into it
FACE - Don't touch it
FEET - Stay more than 6 ft apart
FEEL sick? - Stay home