



HSSA Education and Outreach Department Policies and FAQ's regarding COVID-19

April 21, 2020 Update

ARE WE STILL HOSTING OUR HUMANE AMIGOS SUMMER CAMPS?

Yes! We have been keeping a close eye on the news and updates about COVID-19, **as of now we are still planning on running our hands-on animal camp this summer. Camp start dates have been pushed back to begin at the end of June.** We believe that it is important to provide an enriching outlet for local youth after this difficult period of sheltering in place is over.

The safety and health of our youth participants is always the highest priority with all of our programs. We have always taken great care to develop and maintain medical practices to address a variety of communicable diseases, both common and rare.

We plan on keeping in close communication with guardians. Policies regarding COVID-19 are changing daily, and we are following these updates closely. If recommendations from local or federal government agencies change, we will adjust accordingly and keep you informed. We are additionally reviewing the American Camp Association protocols for camps with regards to COVID – 19.

WHAT IS BEING DONE TO HELP MANAGE DISEASE PREVENTION?

To help mitigate potential transmission, our cleaning policies have been updated to follow official recommendations. This includes wiping door handles, countertops, restrooms, and other surfaces several times a day in public-accessed spaces. More details about current cleaning and disease prevention protocols is available upon request.

Additionally, our summer camp typically has between 25-27 campers total and most of our programming takes place in the Education Center which is not accessed by the public. We will continue to incorporate hand sanitizing and hand washing several times a day into our schedule and maintain good hygiene and disease prevention practices.

Our staff is in correspondence with other organizations to discuss the best safety practices moving forward in regard to COVID-19 prevention policies in camp settings. We will continue contact guardians with any new or changing procedures moving forward.

CAN MY CHILD GET COVID-19 FROM THE DOGS AND CATS AT THE SHELTER?

According to the World Health Organization, at this time, there is no evidence that companion animals, including pets, can spread COVID-19 to people or that they might be a source of infection in the United States. To date, CDC has not received any reports of pets becoming sick with COVID-19 in the United States.

Coronaviruses (CoV) are a large family of viruses that cause illness ranging from the common cold to more severe respiratory diseases. There are many strains of coronavirus, and many that are common in species of domestic and wild animals. These viruses are rarely transmissible to humans. Human coronaviruses create flu-like symptoms that can be extreme. (The coronaviruses we vaccinate our dogs against cause a contagious dog-to-dog intestinal disease.) COVID-19, the coronavirus that is currently infecting people is thought to have

come initially from bats via an intermediate host. We will continue to maintain our hygiene standards including handwashing and sanitizing between animal interactions.






WHAT ARE SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS THAT I SHOULD LEAVE MY CHILD AT HOME?

Just like with the flu and other illnesses, we ask that campers, volunteers, and staff stay at home if they are experiencing distress or showing contagious symptoms.

For COVID-19, symptoms include a fever, cough and/or shortness of breath. If your child is showing these symptoms or has had possible exposure to COVID-19 (either through a contact with a known exposure or through recent travel abroad) we ask that you please keep your child home from programing.

If you have any concerns, we recommend you discuss them with your doctor. In order to promote illness prevention, we have adjusted our cancellation policy for the 2020 summer camp season.

Below is an image of additional signs that your child should avoid coming into programing:

I NEED TO STAY HOME IF...						
I HAVE A FEVER	I AM VOMITING	I HAVE DIARRHEA	I HAVE A RASH	I HAVE HEAD LICE	I HAVE AN EYE INFECTION	I HAVE BEEN IN THE HOSPITAL
						
Temperature of 100 or higher	Within the past 24 hours	Within the past 24 hours	Body rash with itching or fever	Itchy head, active head lice	Redness, itching and/or "crusty" drainage from eye.	Hospital stay and/or ER visit

I AM READY TO GO BACK TO SCHOOL WHEN I AM...						
Fever free for 24 hours without the use of fever reducing medication i.e. Tylenol, Motrin	Free from vomiting for at least 2 solid meals	Free from diarrhea for at least 24 hours	Free from rash, itching, or fever. I have been evaluated by my doctor if needed	Treated with appropriate lice treatment at home and proof is provided by the county health office	Evaluated by my doctor and have a note to return to school	Released by my medical provider to return to school

(Image borrowed from the Brady Independent School District in Texas.)

We have implemented an additional precaution for all staff, youth interns and campers attending or assisting with our summer programs. Daily, all staff, interns and campers will have their temperatures taken prior to entering the Education Center classrooms. The thermometer will scan each person’s temperature from a near distance. Our Education staff will test each camper in the presence of and with the permission from their parent/guardian. If a fever is present, that individual staff, intern or camp participant will not be allowed within the Education classroom and will be encouraged to visit their primary care doctor. The individual will only be able to return to camp after 24 hours and only if they present feverless and symptom free. Waivers requesting permission for this additional precaution will be sent to each family for approval.

WHAT IF I NEED TO CANCEL?

Our standard camp cancellation policy states: HSSA will be happy to provide a full refund for your camp registration should you cancel your reservation within forty-eight (48) business hours of your camp week start date. For example: if you registered for Week # 1 which runs from June 1-4, 2020 the last day to cancel your registration is May 27, 2020. The Wednesday, prior to your child's camp week is the cutoff date for full refunds. HSSA will then issue you a refund for any registration fees within ten (10) business days of the camp date.

- No refunds for Hand In Paw Kids Club memberships.
- No refunds are issued for cancellations made less than forty-eight (48) business hours before the camp start date.
- No Refunds for "no-shows."
- No refunds are issued should a participant be removed from a program for violation of HSSA rules or regulations.

Due to the current health situation, we are adjusting our current camp cancellation policy to include the following:

- If your child ends up canceling for a full week due to illness, we will work with you to see if space is available in another Summer Camp session after the period of illness is over. Rescheduling due to illness is subject to availability, and campers will be placed on to program waitlists, if applicable.
- Registration Account balances can be used at a later date to either sign up any of our other education programs, such as birthday parties, learning series, daylong workshops, and/or Spring and Winter break camps.
- Should local or federal Sheltering In Place regulations extend into the summer, we would adjust accordingly and offer full refunds should camp be unable to run this year.

WHAT IF THE HSSA CANCELS CAMPS?

HSSA camp cancellation policy: HSSA reserves the right to cancel a program due to insufficient registration (10 minimum), weather considerations, emergencies or unforeseen circumstances. Parents will be notified about summer camp cancellations at least seven days in advance. Should HSSA have to cancel your program, we will issue you a full refund for any registration fees within ten (10) working days of the event date.

Retaining registration funds as credit allows us to use program fees to continue our support and care of community animals during this time. If your family has experienced financial hardships during this time, or has immunocompromised related concerns, please reach out to us for further discussion.

If you would like to request a cancellation, please email ikoopmanleyva@hssaz.org provide the following information:

- Your child's first and last name
- The program and session date (ex: Rescue Crew Week # 1 June 1-4, 2020)

Please note that cancellation requests may take several days to process.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us!

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