



# Live! Chat with Chalmers & Redwoods!

## Summary Document

### Re-Opening Camp

The following are Redwoods' recommended minimum criteria to watch for in your state before re-opening camp to anything other than emergency/COVID-19-specific programming:

1. Two weeks of documented declining deaths in your state or metropolitan area
2. Adequate capacity for the local healthcare system to treat all those projected to need care at the peak
3. Testing available for all who have symptoms or are at risk
4. Substantially improved capacity to monitor all active cases and to track contacts

If you do open camp, we recommend you implement two things:

- **Waivers:** During this time, it will be crucial to communicate to parents/guardians that the COVID-19 crisis is on-going, and that they and their kids are participating in activities *at their own risk*. That means taking extra care to ensure that all participants sign a comprehensive waiver that covers risks such as COVID-19. A staff member does not need to sign a waiver. Instead, there should be an addendum added to their job description and employee handbook that they will need to sign off on.
  - [Sample Adult Waiver](#)
  - [Sample Minor Waiver](#)
  - [Sample Volunteer Waiver](#)
- **Signage:** To ensure that your parents/guardians and program participants are conscious of their assumption of risk in this uncertain time, we strongly recommend posting numerous, [visible warning signs](#) specifically relating to COVID-19 during check-in at camp. Additionally, share similar language of this risk through all parent/guardian communications like the parent handbook or emails.

### Planning for Re-Opening

As you're planning to re-open, be sure to protect your camp by doing the following:

- While your camp is currently closed, it is a great opportunity to think through what will need to be adjusted in your camp culture and daily schedule in order for you to open successfully. Some things to consider are:
  - a. Touchless drop-off
  - b. Temperature checks
  - c. Sanitizing on a daily basis
  - d. Handwashing procedures
- It will be important for your camp to understand the guidance that is out there and to make sure you are following that guidance. If someone were to contract COVID-19 and file a claim, plaintiff attorneys will look at what your organization should have done based off that guidance. Therefore, make sure you look through the guidance from:
  - ACA and CDC guidance
  - World Health Organization
  - State and local health departments
  - Licensing organizations
- If a child or staff starts experiencing symptoms at your camp, develop emergency management policies and procedures. These policies and procedures should include how the patient will be isolated and cared for by your staff safely.

### Additional Risk Management Resources

- **ACA and CDC Guidance:** The American Camp Association and the CDC have been working closely together to develop [detailed guidelines](#) for operating camp this summer, if and when it is safe to re-open. Please take a

moment to review so that you know what will and will not be covered. That way you can focus your own preparations on where they are most needed.

- **Guidelines for Virtual Youth Programs:** The world of virtual camp is exploding exponentially due to the COVID-19 outbreak. Much of this is through messages, videos or activity sheets posted through a camp's social media platforms. Some of the programs are "live" in which staff & volunteers can interact through virtual platforms with their camper families. We have [created a resource](#) that includes a set of guidelines to consider when offering any virtual program. ACA also has [many resources](#) on virtual youth programs.

### What if someone contracts COVID-19 at my camp?

Liability means that you are responsible for something in the eyes of the law and is the ultimate consequence for that action. How the law determines whether or not you are responsible for something is through negligence. Negligence is a wrongful act you should have not committed or the omission of an act that you should have acted on.

Whether or not your camp will be held liable if someone contracts COVID-19 is addressed on our [coverage questions resource](#).

### What if a staff member contracts COVID-19 at my camp?

When preparing for employees to come back to work, below are a few things to consider as an employer in order to make sure all staff are safe:

- If a staff member were to get sick at camp, develop protocols for the following:
  - What are you going to do to physically remove the staff member and isolate them?
  - What will you do in order to replace that role?
  - How will you protect the employees that have to come in contact with that employee in order to care for them?
  - How will you clean all of the areas that the employee came in to contact with?
- Will you provide PPE for all staff? Provide if mandatory, suggest if optional, allow if desired.
- Document everything. If a staff member were to get sick, everything that is written down is discoverable. Therefore, it is critically important to document every step your organization is taking to protect the camp community.

If an employee were to get sick at camp, Workers' Compensation insurance will look at the claim in a different way than General Liability/Property insurance. Below are a few things to consider:

- If an employee contracts COVID-19, the burden of proof is the burden of the employee.
- If an employee were to contract COVID-19, them contracting it would have to be related to their job function.
- If there is an assumption that someone is infected, Workers' Compensation will not accept any presumptive cases. Only confirmed positive cases will be accepted.

### Contact Us

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