Mass Gathering and Event Guidance

The Scott County Health Department recognizes the challenges that SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19, has created for individuals, businesses, organizations, and the community. Unfortunately, the virus continues to circulate in the community, state, and nation and will for the foreseeable future. As a result, the Scott County Health Department continues to promote social distancing, hand hygiene, and the use of facemasks as appropriate in community settings.

As Governor Reynolds’ proclamations have allowed for the reopening of many businesses, events, etc, the Scott County Health Department is providing input into these processes by local community partners. While the department is available and willing to review plans created to limit the potential spread of the virus at mass gatherings and events, staff and/or the department’s medical director cannot approve or disapprove plans or allow or prohibit events. The review will include feedback and recommendations.

As planning for mass gatherings and events occurs, organizers are encouraged to review the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s Considerations for Events and Gatherings [https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/large-events/considerations-for-events-gatherings.html](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/large-events/considerations-for-events-gatherings.html). Governor Reynolds has defined a mass gathering as more than 10 people. The Scott County Health Department considers small gatherings to be less than 50 individuals, medium gatherings to be 50-250 individuals, and large gatherings to be more than 250 individuals.

When reviewing plans, the department will need to be informed at minimum about:
- Date/time and duration of event (multiple days, etc) and location
- Anticipated number of attendees
- Description of nature of activity
- Plan for social distancing of six feet between individuals and/or groups attending
- Whether alcohol is served
- Hand hygiene considerations (hand sanitizer, portable handwashing, etc)
- Discussion of symptom screening for personnel and attendees
- Availability of restroom facilities as appropriate for size of event (prevent long lines)
- Plans for assuring compliance with required safety measures.

Plans can be submitted electronically to health@scottcountyiowa.com or an appointment to discuss a plan via the phone or through WebEx can be made by calling 563.326.8618. Please be aware that Scott County Health Department is a public entity and information shared in writing may be made public upon request.

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