



Community Emergency Relief Camp (CERC)

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the Community Emergency Relief Camp (CERC) program?

The Club is providing emergency childcare programming to essential workers (lab techs, nurses, hospital personnel, etc.). This will be limited in-person childcare serving no more than eight children in what we are calling a “youth pod”. Two direct service staff and one site supervisor per youth pod will be on-site at all times. This ratio is to follow the guidelines set by the Governor of no gatherings of more than 10 people. Each youth pod will have its own set of bathrooms and entrance/exit in order to keep youth pods isolated from one another. Projections include having two youth pods at Lincoln Street, two youth pods at Ferguson Crestmont and four youth pods at Ellettsville - serving 64 kids total. Childcare is considered an essential service under the Governor’s stay-at-home order. The Community Emergency Relief Camp provides that care in a safe and strategic way to get much needed essential workers on the front lines again.

Why is the Boys & Girls Clubs of Bloomington (BGCB) providing this CERC program?

There are many reasons the Club and Board of Directors have chosen to begin minimal in-person operations of childcare to essential workers in our community.

They are as follows:

- 1) **Mission** - We are called to serve youth. “To empower all children, especially those who need us most, to reach their full potential as caring, productive, and responsible citizens.”
- 2) **We Have Been Asked to Serve** - IU Health and the Childcare Coalition (led by the Community Foundation of Bloomington and Monroe County) asked us to consider providing direct service to youth. Declarations from the Mayor of Bloomington and the Governor of Indiana have both indicated the importance of childcare at this time. We agree.
- 3) **Preparing for the Future** - There is no doubt, at some point, we will be serving youth in a COVID-19 world. We need to plan and safely test a model that can be effectively and safely implemented that keeps kids, families, and staff safe and healthy. Launching the CERC using the youth pod format allows us to learn and then revise our plan as we continue to grow and move into the summer.

Who does the CERC program serve?

At this time, the Boys & Girls Clubs of Bloomington is beginning the CERC by serving children ages 6-12 of employees who are deemed essential employees (IU Health, Monroe Hospital, First Responders) and who have no other options for childcare. These employees would otherwise have to be on-leave (some paid, some unpaid) to stay home with their children. At this time, the employers of the essential workers (i.e. IU Health) are determining which employees are most essential and therefore need to have access to the CERC program first.

Are you partnering with anyone for the CERC program?

The Community Emergency Relief Camp was created as part of the community collaborative initiative “Commission for Kids” which includes the Community Foundation, MCCSC, The City of Bloomington, Bloomington Parks & Recreation, Cook Inc., IU Health, and the Boys & Girls Clubs of Bloomington, among others. Parks & Recreation is also opening youth pods now as part of the CERC program. Others plan to work towards opening youth pods in the weeks to come. These youth pods will follow the lead of the Boys & Girls Clubs of Bloomington using similar procedures and policies across the community.

Has the CERC program been approved by the proper authorities?

The Club’s Board of Directors and Staff have worked to create robust safety procedures and protocols for opening the CERC. Procedures and protocols follow all CDC and FSSA guidelines for re-opening childcare, which falls under essential service according to the Governor’s guidelines. IU Health and the Monroe County Health Department have thoroughly reviewed the Club’s plans and have approved them. Bloomington’s Mayor, John Hamilton, has also voiced his support of the operation of the CERC. The City’s Parks & Recreation Department is also opening youth pods at this time; they are focussing first on Cook employees.

What is a youth pod and how are they staffed?

A youth pod is made up of no more than eight children. Youth pods are open from 6:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. to accommodate IU Health employees working 12-hour shifts. Four members of BGCB Staff, working staggered shifts, will lead a youth pod throughout the day, making the total pod comprising eight participants and two staff max at any given time. Two BGCB Staff members will work the first shift from 6:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. and two more BGCB Staff members will work the second shift from 1:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. There will be an additional BGCB Staff member on-site as the Site Supervisor for the first shift and another for the second. The Site Supervisor will be a full-time professional staff member of BGCB and will act to supervise the youth pod through video surveillance, help generate curriculum and activity plans, and communicate with parents as needed. “On-call” staff will be available to cover both morning and afternoon shifts in the case of staff illness. No employee of BGCB is being required to work in a youth pod; all participating staff have indicated their clear willingness to work in and around the youth pods.

How are you screening kids for sickness?

IU Health will train our CERC Staff, following IU Health's screening guidelines. Staff will use full PPE during health screenings.

1. Health Screens will be performed before entrance to the Club facility. Staff are trained to complete a health screen for employees and participants each day to the extent allowed by law.
 - a. Temperatures will be taken outside the facility and entry will be denied if anyone has a temperature of 100.4 or above, or has signs or symptoms of respiratory infections.
 - b. Children and staff will be rescreened for temperature and symptoms one hour after entrance, and again mid-afternoon each day that they are in care.
 - c. Children and staff will be asked daily, "Do you have a new cough or have you experienced fever, shortness of breath, sore throat, vomiting, diarrhea, or muscle aches within the past 14 days?" If the answer is "yes" to any of these questions, entry into the building will be denied.
 - d. If a child or staff member has had direct contact with someone with a confirmed case of COVID-19, they must self-quarantine for 14 days and call their healthcare provider.
2. Additional intake questions: BGCB employees will ask members and parents the following questions prior to allowing them into programming:
 - a. Do you or anyone in your family have any symptoms of a respiratory infection (e.g., cough, sore throat, fever or shortness of breath)?
 - b. Do you have any health conditions that would put you in the high risk category for COVID-19 severe conditions?

What else are you doing to keep kids and families safe?

All staff are thoroughly trained, following the BGCB Emergency COVID-19 Plan/CERC Plan that follows all CDC and FSSA Guidelines.

Forms:

- Additional health forms (ACA Med Form) will need to be completed and maintained on-file for each child served and employee that will be entering the facility at any point.
- Collection of these health forms and emergency contacts will occur for each child.

Cleaning:

- Regular hand washing will occur every 45 minutes, regardless of activity.
- Hand washing will occur before and after entering the restroom, before and after activities and lunch.
- Proper training for hand washing will occur.
- Cleaning and sanitizing of often touched surfaces will occur regularly.
- Deep cleaning will occur each evening.

Avoiding Contamination:

- Physical/Social distancing will be practiced at all times.
- Children and staff will wear masks when appropriate.
- Each child will have their own tub of materials to ensure no cross contamination. Youth will use this same tub of materials each day.
- Program will utilize individualized games and activities to avoid cross contamination
- There will be a focus to keep families together in pods to reduce the family's exposure to the virus. Keeping all siblings in the same youth pod = less exposure.
- Staff and youth pods will be matched and maintained to avoid cross contamination. Kids and staff who start in youth pod #3, will stay in youth pod #3. All participating staff have indicated their clear willingness to work in and around the youth pods.
- Each youth pod will have a separate entry/exit for parent pick up, reducing cross contamination with other youth pods. If multiple youth pods exist in a Club space, those youth pods will never share or co-use spaces to avoid cross contamination. Youth pods remain isolated within the facility.
- Staff are required to maintain safe circles and best practices outside of work to ensure their own safety and the safety of those they encounter at work.