



Ripley County Health Department
102 West 1st North Street/P.O. Box 745
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<http://www.ripleyhealth.com>

Dear Food Pantry Community,

In regards to COVID-19 concerns, it is the duty of the Ripley County Health Department to keep our community safe. Ripley County Health Officer, Dr. David J. Welsh, MD, has set forth the following guidelines for all food pantries:

Most importantly, always ensure there is at least 6 feet away from each individual. Have sanitation stations set up throughout the service, especially for everybody helping prepare for the customers. Anybody helping prepare for customers are required to wear a mask.

It may be in the best interest of the food pantry workers to have pre-boxed food for the customers. This will reduce the amount of people in the facility. Have a curbside delivery and put the pre-boxed package in their trunks.

In regards to the number of customers, no more than 250 visitors are allowed at one time. Individuals over the age of 60 are highly recommended to stay home.

Visitors with respiratory symptoms of any kind (cough, difficulty breathing, any fever) are prohibited from attending any service. If a person is considered high risk, it is discouraged that they attend any type of service.

Shaking of hands and hugging are **STRONGLY** discouraged.

This is the first step in protecting the health and safety of our community. Additional restrictions will be provided as more guidelines come from the state.

Please feel free to reach out with any further questions at the contact information below.

Thank you for your patience and cooperation, together we can tackle this challenge.

David J. Welsh, MD

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Created: 03/19/2020
Revised 09/01/2020*