



June 18, 2021

Dear Gulf Coast Center Clients, Family Members, and Community Partners:

We are pleased to announce that **effective July 1, 2021**, Gulf Coast Center will transition routine services from audio and video modes of delivery to once again occur in-person.

As a state-funded community center with disaster response responsibility, we remained committed to having necessary protective strategies in place as we maintained essential services over the past year. In an effort to safely continue service delivery, our routine services were provided through audio and video delivery modes. As we return to in-person service delivery, most of the protective strategies practiced within our clinics will remain in place. Services typically occurring within the community, that have not already returned to in-person, will transition back to in-person with measures to support the health, wellness, and safety of all involved.

Although COVID-19 disease transmission is steadily decreasing, the virus continues to impact our community. Therefore, we will continue to make informed decisions under the guidance of the Center for Disease Control and Prevention, Texas Department of State and Health Services, and local health officials.

Navigation during the past year has included ensuring the health, safety and well-being of our clients, staff and community as well as providing quality patient care. We will do no less during this transition.

#### **MEASURES GULF COAST CENTER IS TAKING TO ENSURE HEALTH AND SAFETY OF ALL:**

- Continue brief health screenings, consisting of a temperature check & symptom questionnaire.
- Practice blocked seating to ensure social/physical distancing throughout our facilities.
- Use of protective barriers and personal protective equipment (PPE) as designated.
- Encourage all to sanitize their hands upon entry and exit of a location.
- Maintain Sanitizing Stations located within our facilities.
- Encourage all who enter a facility to wear a face mask/covering. (Due to a recent Executive Order, face masks are not required.)
- Limit in-person attendance for any type of gathering to the size allowing proper social distancing.
- Continue to practice protective measures when providing services on-site of other locations.
- Continue to coordinate and communicate vaccine access opportunities.

#### **WHAT CAN WE CONTINUE TO DO AS A COMMUNITY?**

- Practice healthy hygiene.
- Practice social/physical distancing.

- Limit group and crowd size to allow recommended social/physical distancing.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue and then throw the tissue in the trash.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.
- Stay home when you are sick, seeking medical attention when necessary.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
- If soap and water are not available, use alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60 % alcohol.

*To find vaccine locations near you:*

Simply text your zip code to 438829 **OR** call 1-800-232-0233 **OR** search [www.vaccines.gov](http://www.vaccines.gov)

*Brazoria County Residents* who have questions concerning COVID-19 can call the Brazoria County COVID-19 Information Line at 979.864.2167, Monday – Friday 10:00a.m.-6:00p.m. and Saturday 9:00a.m.-2:00p.m.

*Galveston County Residents* who have questions concerning COVID-19 can call the Galveston County Health District call center at 409.938.7221, option 1. Monday –Friday 8 a.m. - 5p.m. and Saturday 9a.m. - 1 p.m.

*Gulf Coast Center Crisis Hotline – 866-729-3848*

*Brazoria County Health Department*

<https://www.brazoriacountytx.gov/departments/health-department>

Brazoria County COVID-19 CALL CENTER - (979) 864-2167

*Galveston County Health District*

[www.gchd.org/](http://www.gchd.org/)

Galveston County COVID-19 General Public Call Center – (409) 938-7221, Option 1

Thank you,



Melissa Meadows, LCSW – CEO / Gulf Coast Center