

Hello Everyone,

I'm sure you've seen that Vermont has achieved its nation-leading and important goal of vaccinating 80 percent of our population. This means that Vermont is 'effectively re-opened'. **What an exciting time!**

"Capacity restrictions and gathering limits are now lifted, mask wearing is no longer required, and most businesses are now under recommended guidance instead of the stringent health mandates that have governed their daily operations for much of the last 15 months. The announcement comes 464 days after the state identified its first case of COVID-19 and marks a major step toward normalcy, signaling what many hope will be an end to the pandemic in Vermont." (<https://www.sevendaysvt.com/OffMessage/archives/2021/06/14/vermont-crosses-80-percent-vaccination-threshold-scott-lifts-covid-19-restrictions>)

What does this mean for CCS? It means that starting tomorrow, Tuesday June 15th:

Masks:

- In accordance with CDC and DAIL guidance, and a decision by the CCS task Force, during CCS service time masks are now *optional* for people (staff and people in services) **who are FULLY vaccinated (two weeks past final vaccination):** may now choose to go mask free, **except under the following circumstances:**
 - Their location (workplace, community location) requires it. You should have a mask with you at all times.
 - Using public transportation
 - Someone is receiving or giving personal or "medical" care.
 - Working with several people during the day (over 3 people in one day).
 - The team/guardian requires or requests mask use.
- **We welcome anyone who feels more comfortable wearing a mask to do so, at any time. No one should be asked why they are wearing a mask.**
 - Anyone (staff/person in services/home providers during home visits) who is NOT fully vaccinated must remain masked during service or CCS meeting time.
 - If you have specific questions or requests regarding masks, etc, please send them to the CCS Covid Task Force (covid19@ccsvt.onmicrosoft.com) and we'll address them, asap.

Gathering at CCS/Groups

- Please give us a couple of days to figure out how to make sense of the tents and meeting spaces at CCS – along with the other guidance. For this week, we'll keep all scheduled times as is and provide some transition guidance soon.

There is so much more to look at and discuss – please stay tuned while we figure out how to transition back to some new kind of normal. We'll be back in touch soon.

HEY! BRAVO! *We all made it here, together!*

Beth

Elizabeth M. Sightler | Executive Director
802.655.0511, x 120