Dear Community Partner Organization,

As you’ve likely heard, the Governor has announced continued “turning of the dials,” allowing his existing Stay at Home executive order to expire May 18. It’s important to note that while this loosens some of the restrictions that have been in place, the recommendations remain: continue to wear masks, practice social distancing, limit gatherings of family and friends to 10 people or less, and stay safe and close to home.

Here in St. Louis County, with the broadening of testing capability, we are seeing more cases across a broader geographic region and across a much wider age range. (In just the last week, we’ve had two confirmed cases in children under five. Thankfully, neither requires hospitalization.)

Some resources you may find helpful.

- For those of you who work with youth/student programs, [MDH has updated its guidance](https://www.mdh.gov) on how to do so safely.
- If you work with businesses whose owners may have questions on how to prepare to safely re-open, a great resource to share with them is [this guide from the MN Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED)](https://www.mn.gov). If you are encountering questions on any of these safety requirements, you can refer them to St. Louis County’s Director of Planning and Community Development Matthew Johnson at johnsonm12@stlouiscountymn.gov.

I’d love to hear what questions you may have, or what questions you are hearing. Please remember I am available by phone or email, Mon-Fri, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Thank you for your continued partnership!

Raymond Jobe
Public Health Liaison
jober@stlouiscountymn.gov
218-260-5513

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**St. Louis County Public Health and Human Services**

is here to work alongside you as you navigate response to COVID 19. Your organization is a key partner in protecting and promoting community health!

As the COVID-19 situation rapidly evolves, find accurate, up to date information here:

- [Minnesota Department of Health (MDH)](https://www.mn.gov)
- [Centers for Disease Control (CDC)](https://www.cdc.gov)
- [St. Louis County COVID-19 information](https://www.stlouiscounty.gov/coronavirus)