



Camp La Junta
H1N1 (Swine) Flu or Other Medical Epidemic
Plans and Policies - updated June 2009

Since it's onset, Camp La Junta has been carefully following all the news about the H1N1 (swine) flu virus. While we have continued to monitor it closely at both the national and local levels, it seems to be very difficult for anyone to predict how things will eventually play out through the summer. We do seem to be seeing consistent reports that symptoms remain fairly mild in most cases. While still significant the situation doesn't appear as frightening as first reported the Spring. We are confidently planning to continue all camp sessions as normally scheduled.

Before camp, all of our international staff and campers were screened at the border based upon all the CDC information and local medical official input on that screening process. As we have very few international campers, we don't foresee this becoming an issue in July. This summer we are requesting that all campers be double checked for fever before departing for camp. Anyone with a fever or one in the 4 days before camp, should call the camp office to schedule a late arrival.

Our best precaution once the summer sessions begin is to maintain a stringent prevention program through thorough hand-washing and other inter-personal hygiene procedures. As an example, we currently keep sanitizer on all dining hall tables and antibacterial soap in all cabins. Our staff checks daily to insure that no dispensers have been removed or gone empty. We have multiple Infirmary checks throughout the session to help us catch a difficulty before a camper feels ill enough to report it.

As with any illness at camp, as soon as it is detected, we begin our standard procedures of treating the symptoms, isolating contagious campers or staff from the rest of the population, notify camper families and get in touch with our camp physician. Should we or our pediatrician determine that we have the characteristics of an H1N1 infection or an outbreak, we'll immediately work to contain the contagion. We have dealt with outbreaks of flu, strep and other viruses in our camp history and will deal with any outbreaks this summer accordingly. We have a well stocked Infirmary with a ward room should the need arise to isolate. We always, isolate or quarantine any ill camper or staff member. Usually 24 hours of quarantine is sufficient to get campers back to full speed, but should more time be necessary because of the severity of a particular illness, a quick trip home will become an option.

Our first session has gone very smoothly with very few campers in need of the infirmary's expertise. Please help us make our second session illness-free by carefully monitoring your son's health and the health of his playmates in the 5 days before camp. We'll see you soon.