

Good Morning All,

As much as I don't like to continue to write about all things related to the pandemic, I want to respond to questions some of you have had in reaction to what has been reported in the news about President Biden's *proposed* COVID-19 Action Plan. **We currently have no plans or changes to announce.**

You have asked about the proposal that all businesses with 100 or more employees ensure their workforce is fully vaccinated or that any workers who remain unvaccinated produce a negative test result on at least a weekly basis. There is also news from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid (CMS) of their potential plan to require COVID-19 vaccinations for workers in most health care settings that receive Medicare or Medicaid reimbursement. While UCP of Greater Cleveland receives Medicare and Medicaid reimbursement, we don't know if any of our programs would be considered as "health care settings" in CMS' definition.

Currently there are no official mandates, but many questions and unknowns remain, including:

- What does it mean to be a health care setting? Does that include group homes, day services, therapy or school programs for individuals with disabilities?
- If employers are required to test unvaccinated staff, would there be enough tests available, who would administer them, and who would pay for them? What would that look like?
- What does it mean to me, UCP, and those we serve if these become mandates?

We are working with our state and national associations regarding the impact these mandates would have on our services and our employees if they go into effect. As we have done throughout the pandemic, we will monitor this situation and communicate updates to you as we learn of them. **Again, we currently have no plans or changes to announce.**

75% of our team members at UCP are currently vaccinated. We believe that COVID-19 vaccination is the best weapon in fighting the pandemic and we encourage all staff who have not yet been vaccinated to do so. If you have questions or concerns, please reach out to your personal physician or UCP's Director of Nursing, Brittany George at bgeorge@ucpcleveland.org or 216-299-6995.

We will do our best to keep you in the loop. Please do not hesitate to contact me at (440) 454-1363, Beth at (216) 534-9960 or any member of the leadership team. Have a good day!

Trish and the Leadership Team