



April 20, 2021

Members and volunteers of Job's Daughters,

This is the next update to the COVID 19 State of Emergency declaration for Job's Daughters International for the United States and Canada. We continue to see some areas improving but are again concerned about the resurgence of cases in some US states and Canadian provinces. We are aware some areas have relaxed some restrictions and yet others have had to close schools again and adjust business operations. We continue to monitor the situation and are working to balance the needs of the Order with the health and safety of our Daughters and adult volunteers. We continue to realize and share in the frustration among our members and adults. As always, the health of our members and adult volunteers remains the highest priority and we will not compromise on this, no matter how inconvenient. The case counts and death toll inside our organization worldwide has been truly heartbreaking.

The escalation in virus variant cases among our Daughter age population and case surges in certain areas are concerning but we are also very encouraged to see cases dropping in others. We are also overjoyed by ever increasing vaccine distribution. But as usual we are very aware that most of our members are not eligible for vaccines since they are under 16 years of age. We are continuing with a smaller guidance window of 30 days so that we can be more agile should the data and medical advice allow for change. With all that in mind we are altering two of our JDI specific recommendations regarding Jurisdiction events and Bethel meeting visitors for the month of May.

The following guidance and recommendations will take effect **May 1, 2021** and remain in effect until **May 31, 2021** for the United States and Canada.

- In-person events may (but are not required to) resume so long as they are in accordance with guidelines issued by Federal/Provincial/Territorial/State/Local authorities and health agencies AND with the 5 JDI recommendations below:
 - Mask wearing
 - Social distancing of 6 ft (2 meters)
 - Overnight/Sleepover events are specifically NOT recommended
 - Jurisdiction wide in-person events are allowed as long as they are in keeping with all other recommendations and guidelines, however cross Jurisdiction events are still NOT recommended.
 - Activity/meeting visitors or multiple Bethel in-person events are allowed as long as they are in keeping with all other recommendation and guidelines, however cross Jurisdiction visitors are specifically NOT recommended.

The JDI Board of Trustees encourages activities to continue to be virtual. Should GGCs/JGCs/Bethels decide to hold in-person activities we have provided a set of guidelines in the JDI Forward document found on the JDI website www.jobsdaughtersinternational.org under the COVID resources tab. This document provides guidance for activities/tasks that regularly occur in our Order, considerations for in-person activities and Bethel meetings and Ritual modifications.

As a continued reminder:

- The Constitution and Bylaws of JDI remain suspended. This includes all subordinate law found in GGCs, JGCs, BGCs and Bethels. This suspension will remain in effect until AT LEAST the end of the 2020-2021 Supreme Guardian Council year currently slated to end August 8, 2021. This allows Bethels, JGCs, GGCs and the SGC to have needed flexibility with installations and annual sessions.
- All policies and business procedures of the Board as well as the JDI Youth Protection Program are separate from the Constitution and Bylaws and remain in full effect.
- Majority age extended to 21 beginning March 15, 2020 through December 31, 2021 if requested by the individual Daughter. This decision remains in effect to prevent a Daughter from missing out on potential opportunities during this emergency.

The Board of Trustees continues to operate in an expanded capacity on COVID matters, with a full 20 members comprised of the elected Board, elected Supreme Officers and Supreme Jurisprudence. We can assure you decisions about COVID guidance are not made lightly. We continue to recognize the inconvenience this entire pandemic has caused the organization, but it must be stressed that safety and well being of members and adults will always be the primary concern. Our sincere hope is that we will see improvement in these 30 days that will allow reimagined Grand Sessions in June, yet we all know that 'business as usual' Grand Sessions are not possible just as a 'business as usual' Supreme Session is not possible. As an Order we have already learned many lessons, embraced change, and expanded our comfort zone. We have the utmost faith that we will emerge from this more creative, inclusive, and stronger than before.

Should you have any questions or concerns please don't hesitate to reach out.

Sincerely,

Shelly Cole, JDI Board of Trustees Chair

GoJobie@aol.com

801-674-6766

Valorie Koogle, JDI Supreme Guardian

Momvalorie2021jdi@gmail.com

717-361-5487

Lynell McCracken, JDI Supreme Jurisprudence Chair

Irstu1@yahoo.com

812-264-2322