

# Homewood Friends Meeting COVID-19 Pandemic Response Plan

12/27/23 (with changes since 6/4/23 highlighted in **YELLOW**)

The Homewood Friends Meetinghouse is open for use by Meeting members and attenders and by renters. We follow current CDC guidelines and Baltimore City/State of Maryland directives, monitoring them as they evolve, and we will update this Pandemic Response Plan accordingly. We may include requirements that exceed CDC guidelines or Baltimore City/State of Maryland requirements. While we are opening the meetinghouse for worship and other gatherings, there remains some risk of SARS-CoV-2 transmission. Any person who comes to the meetinghouse will do so at their own risk.

---

**The requirements below will be followed by all persons entering the meetinghouse, including all renters and contractors.**

---

**COVID-19 Symptoms:** If you have symptoms of COVID-19, please do not enter the meetinghouse. These include: fever or chills, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, new loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, nausea or vomiting, and diarrhea.

**Masks:** Masks will be optional at Homewood Friends when the [CDC COVID-19 Hospital Admissions Level](#) for Baltimore City is **LOW** or **MEDIUM**. If the CDC COVID-19 Hospital Admission Level is **HIGH** masks will be required. **CDC recommends that persons with risk factors for severe COVID-19 wear masks when the CDC Hospital Admission Level is MEDIUM.** (Note: The CDC Hospital Admission Level is calculated weekly based on COVID-19 hospital admissions per 100,000 population.)

Exceptions to this rule are:

- Masks remain required in the Meeting Room during Meeting for Worship for persons sitting on the raised facing bench.
- If masks are required, i.e., when [CDC Hospital Admissions Level](#) is **HIGH**, they can be removed when eating or drinking, with masks replaced when not eating or drinking.
- Renters can make a decision not to require masks for their groups, with notification to participants that masks will not be required for those in the rented space. When the [CDC Hospital Admissions Level](#) is **HIGH** masks are required in public spaces, e.g., hallways and bathrooms.

The Meeting has a supply of high quality masks, for persons who need them, available at the entrances to the Meeting Room.

## Meeting for Worship:

- We will worship together in-person, with an option to worship remotely via Zoom (blended Meeting for Worship). We have found that Zoom has allowed us to incorporate Friends into the fabric of our worship life who are unable to participate in-person.
- If you are comfortable doing so, please remove masks temporarily, when delivering a message in Meeting for Worship or when making an announcement (to improve audibility).

**HEPA air filtering machines** are located in the library and in the dining room. The library machine can be temporarily relocated upstairs for the First Day School or for other purposes, as needed.

**Any questions or concerns about this plan** should be addressed to: [homewoodfriends@gmail.com](mailto:homewoodfriends@gmail.com).