Global Volunteers Respiratory Viruses Policy

To help protect volunteers and the community members we serve from contracting respiratory viruses, Global Volunteers encourages you to observe the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) Respiratory Virus Guidance as follows:

1. If you test positive for COVID-19 or have respiratory virus symptoms, e.g., a fever, chills, fatigue, cough, runny nose, and/or headache, that aren't explained by another cause, you should isolate from others and stay in your room to the greatest extent possible. When you need to go out during the isolation period, please wear a high-quality, well-fitting mask, like an N95 mask.
2. Return to your normal activities only when you've been fever-free, without the use of fever-reducing medication, for at least 24 hours.
3. When you go back to your normal activities, "take added precautions" for the next five days, e.g., wear a mask, practice physical distancing, and test yourself before you plan to be around other people indoors.
4. It's important to note that you may be able to spread the virus that made you sick even if you are feeling better.
5. If you develop a fever or start to feel worse after you've returned to your normal activities, please follow the above guidance, 1 through 4.

Self-testing is an effective risk-reduction strategy that protects your teammates and community members by reducing the chances of spreading the COVID-19 virus. Every U.S. household can receive four at-home tests at no cost - you don't even need to pay for shipping. You can order your tests at https://covidtests.gov/ and bring them with you to your service program.

We are confident that all volunteers will abide by the CDC guidelines. However, if during the service program, you show respiratory virus symptoms and fail to comply with the above CDC's recommended precautions, including self-testing for COVID-19, your team leader will ask you to leave the service program and will help arrange your transportation to the nearest international airport. Thank you.