



Setting the Stage for Handwashing



MAKING MEANIINGFUL CONNECTIONS

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SETTING THE STAGE FOR HANDWASHING

On Behalf of Summit DD, we would like to thank you for stepping out of your home and into the lives of people in need of in-home support. As COVID-19 continues to increase throughout Ohio, the need for a more intensified handwashing regiment has also increased. The following guide was designed to support your implementation and intentionality when seeking to help another person's healthy handwashing practices.

Before you begin delving into the following pages, have you ever stopped to consider what the word "home" means? When supporting someone in their home, it is essential to acknowledge; you are entering another person's personal space. It is equally important to recognize; it is one thing to coordinate and support the actions of handwashing but ensuring the person you are caring for has a sense of what that means or looks like in their home, is another.

The following are some questions to consider before entering a home:

1. How well do I know you?
2. How will I interact with you?
3. How will I build your trust?
4. Is it my role to talk with you about COVID-19?
5. If yes, how will I share my knowledge of COVID-19 with you?
6. How will I initiate a handwashing conversation?
7. How will I engage you in active learning, understanding, and practice of the handwashing process?
8. How will I make handwashing pertinent to your life and needs?
9. How will I support your continued practice of handwashing when I am not here?
10. How will I ensure I always see **you** first and your disability second?

In addition to the instructions and information you've been given from your employer, here are some recommendations from the CDC:

You can help yourself and those you care for stay healthy by washing your hands often, especially during these key times when you are likely to come in contact with and spread germs:

- Before, during, and after preparing food
- Before eating food
- Before and after caring for someone at home who is sick with vomiting or diarrhea
- Before and after treating a cut or wound
- After using the toilet
- After changing diapers or cleaning up an individual who has used the toilet
- After blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing
- After touching an animal, animal feed, or animal waste
- After handling pet food or pet treats
- After touching garbage

You may experience some people who resist washing their hands. Please consider the following reasons as to why that may be:

- They may need help but don't want to/know how to ask for it
- They may have a sensitivity to some soaps
- They may be feeling anxious during this time
- They may be afraid due to a lot of changes in their lives currently
- They may have some sensory
- This may be a routine change for them
- The water may have been too hot or cold the last time they washed their hands