Using the GuideSafe COVID-19 Exposure Notification App

What is the Exposure Notification App?
The Exposure Notification app is one of the recommended tools available in the GuideSafe platform and can be used in conjunction with the Healthcheck survey. The Exposure Notification app can be used to monitor close contact exposure to individuals who test positive for COVID-19.

- Once the GuideSafe Exposure Notification App is downloaded to an iPhone or Android device, users will opt-in to the notification system through a few simple steps.
- The app never records location or identity or accesses your contact list. Instead, the app generates a random code for each user phone. This random code then changes every 10 to 20 minutes to preserve security.
- As users go about their day, all phones utilizing the GuideSafe Exposure Notification App that are in close contact (defined as within six feet for greater than 15 minutes) of others will exchange these random codes via low-energy Bluetooth.
- This exchange works even if the app is in the background so that users can continue to use their phones for other tasks.
- If someone self-reports that they have tested positive for COVID-19 through the app, a message is sent through the app to everyone who has had a close contact exposure to that person. It notifies all phones that have been within six feet for 15 minutes or longer of the COVID-19-positive individual’s Bluetooth phone signal.
- This information is anonymous, and you will not know who tested positive. Even if you are not aware of who submitted the report, data indicates that you were exposed. This may have been in a community setting while you were shopping, dining, exercising or socializing. It may be someone you know who is not sharing their diagnosis publicly or it may be a complete stranger. When you receive this notification, you should take it seriously and not dismiss it as a reporting error or false alarm.

A video on how the Exposure Notification app works can be viewed here: https://vimeo.com/44755580

How do I get the Exposure Notification app?
Download the GuideSafe Exposure Notification app from the Apple Store here, and from the Google Play store here.
How do I know if I have been potentially exposed to someone with COVID-19?

- If you have been in close contact with someone who has anonymously self-reported testing positive, your screen would show the report in Image 1.

- In Image 2, the person checked their app on August 20 and found that they had a close contact exposure notification. This screen indicated that this person had been within six feet of someone within the past 14 days who has anonymously self-reported testing positive for COVID-19 and notified the app. Based on these data, this individual needs to self-quarantine for 14 days from the date of the last close contact interaction with this person, which occurred on August 17 (quarantine through August 31). This means that this person needs to quarantine for 11 days from the date of notification. The app informs how many days to quarantine, displayed in bold text.

- If an employee receives a push notification on their phone (displayed as a banner or a lock screen notification), they should open the app and check the GuideSafe exposure log. If this log is empty and there are no dates displayed in the log, then the contact with the person who tested positive does not meet the close contact definition (within six feet for 15 minutes or longer).

- Each day of the quarantine, the individual will receive the message displayed in Image 3.

- Every day of the quarantine, the employee should complete the GuideSafe Healthcheck and on the final screen, indicate that they have been advised to quarantine. This will generate a red passport.
For employees who receive a close contact exposure notification:

- If an employee receives this notification, the employee should stay home and self-quarantine and contact their direct supervisor. The direct supervisor will complete the “Supervisor COVID-19 Intake Form” and work closely with the COVID-19 Liaison. Employees should self-quarantine for the indicated time period and should self-monitor for symptoms. If symptoms develop, the employee should seek medical care. The employee should maintain close contact with their supervisor and COVID-19 Liaison.

For students who receive a close contact exposure notification:

- If a student receives this notification, the student should contact all of their instructors to let them know that they are in self-quarantine and make arrangements for course requirements. The student should self-quarantine for the indicated duration and self-monitor temperature and symptoms. If symptoms develop, the student should seek medical care.