## SAFETY PODS

Forming a pod with others is a **personal choice** depending on your circumstances and social preferences. Risks associated with COVID-19 are not eliminated when interacting within a pod while they are reduced compared to large group interaction.



## REASONS TO FORM A POD

*Physical isolation*, along with other safety guidelines, is *important* to slow the spread of COVID-19. Compared to large group interaction, forming a pod serves to provide social interactions while limiting social *interaction to smaller groups* in order to reduce the chances of spreading COVID-19.

## CHARACTERISTICS OF A SAFETY POD

Size: Pods vary in size, though health experts recommend smaller pods of up to 10 people or up to two to three households to further reduce risk of COVID-19 exposure.

**Pod Membership:** It is helpful to create a pod with those who share a similar lifestyle, habits and/or live near each other. All members of the pod should understand and agree upon clear boundaries, the level of exposure, risk profile, and risk tolerance of each pod member.

**Safety Rules:** Individuals within the pod should continue to practice recommended safety guidelines to prevent the spread of COVID-19 such as social distancing, wearing a mask, and handwashing. Those within the pod should agree on designated safety practices they will follow within and outside the group including how they want to limit their social interactions.

Stay Informed: Members of the pod should stay informed on the latest health recommendations and practices regarding COVID-19 provided by the Center for Disease Control and/or the local public health department.

