

## 9. Minimizing risk when preventing communicable disease

When taking steps to reduce the spread of communicable disease it is important for you to ensure these steps are not unintentionally causing harm to clients.

**\*Health Authority Guidance takes into consideration minimizing harm to clients and their direction should be followed when providing support to a site.**



**Consider the following:**

### **Risk:**

- Are people sick at your site?
- What type of illness is circulating?
- Was the client at your site while sick or contagious?
- Can you lower the risk of spreading the illness? (e.g. masks, cleaning, distancing)
- Are clients in your site immunocompromised?
- What are your site policies for when clients are sick?

### **Client Experience:**

- How will this impact clients?
- Are their basic needs being met?
- Can they follow directions and recommendations to prevent spread of disease?

### **Setting:**

- Are weather events impacting the safety of client (heat, cold, smoke)?
- Are supplies available to prevent the spread? (cleaning supplies, masks, hand washing, etc.)
- Does site have a heating ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) system or ability to increase ventilation