As we open a new academic year still entangled with COVID-19, it is imperative that we commit to caring for each other and caring for our community at large. As a community member, each of us must do our part to contribute to “lessening the risk” of any of us becoming ill. To do so, we must consider our decisions, choices and behaviors as a member of the Earlham community and our impact upon each other.

In doing so, we each need to be accountable and hold each other accountable for following established guidelines to lessen risk. That includes wearing a mask; washing our hands frequently; acknowledging social distancing; covering our cough or sneeze and doing a self-assessment each morning on wellness.

I will wear my mask in recognition that I can contribute toward ensuring the overall health and safety of the Earlham Community. I will do this by putting the health of my residence community, my campus and the greater Richmond community, first, and realizing that my actions have impact upon others, who may be more vulnerable than me so I will do my part to keep them safe.

I will regularly monitor myself for the symptoms of COVID-19. If displaying symptoms such as fever of 100.4 F or higher, dry cough, difficulty breathing, chills, repeated shaking with chills, muscle pain, headache, sore throat or loss of taste or smell, I will immediately contact Health Services for guidance and avoid contact with other members of the community.

I will discourage unsafe and unsanitary behaviors in others, when I see it. Options I have in discouraging such behaviors include speaking with my fellow community member and/or notifying my Resident Assistant, Area Director, Student Life or a faculty member.

I will follow these protocols, policies and expectations as outlined from Residence Life and Health Services for this year as we all commit to care and community to lessen the risk of illness. As the semester progresses, I understand these protocols, policies and expectations may change as new guidance is issued by the CDC, the State and Local Health Departments.