

A day in the life of a bank club director during COVID-19 pandemic:

My mornings, like others', are "normal" – I get up and get my daughter and myself ready for the day. I am still working outside of our home and am blessed to have family as my daycare providers. I take comfort in knowing that my daughter is unaffected by these changes. After I drop my daughter off, however, things are a little different...

Two weeks ago, six colleagues and I moved to a remote location—AKA our boss' basement, where we are set up to do our "normal business functions." We are not allowed back at the bank until the ban is lifted.

After a day or two we were able to get comfortable at our new workstations. Calls are forwarded to our cell phones and reception at times is iffy. Our meetings and huddles are now held on Microsoft Teams or via phone conference, and we have no printers here. We have figured out more efficient ways to do some of our processes that we can continue to use long after the virus has passed. Still, for other processes, we have to call into the bank and have someone else do them for us.

Out of our three branches, only our two bigger branches have these remote workstations. If someone in one of our now five locations gets the virus we have back-up staff that can go in and take over. Additionally, some of our tellers work from home and the bank has limited/no lobby access with a walk-up teller window at the front door.

I worry about my club members' mental and physical health, and I am sending out thinking-of-you cards. For the first time since taking over the club, I was able to get a full year of events planned in advance, and it is so sad to see those deadlines pass and the opportunities with them. Some of the events we can reschedule, but we don't know when, while some are cancelled completely.

I hope and pray that things will be better soon and that we will be able to throw an event to celebrate the end of this pandemic!

At the end of the day I am thankful that I still have a job and a little extra time to spend with my family.

~Lisa Thompson, Kaw Valley State Bank (Wamego, KS)