



Healing and Helping With Heart

Caring Through Charity
a not-for-profit Senior Choice Community

May 14, 2021

Dear friends and families,

We are continuing to monitor and follow the latest [Centers for Disease Control \(CDC\)](#) COVID-19 infection control guidance that impacts our residents and visitors.

All visitation must continue to be scheduled through a facility representative; please call our facility during Monday through Friday business hours to schedule. Please bear in mind that new residents are in a 14 day COVID observation period and are only permitted window visits while in this 14 day observation period. For all Personal care visitation, please call Missy Beal x. 5028 to schedule. For all nursing home visitation, please call Kathy Layman, our front desk receptionist to schedule.

The core principles of COVID-19 infection prevention protocols are to be followed.

Residents who are on transmission-based precautions for COVID-19 should only receive visits that are virtual, through windows, or in-person for compassionate care situations, with adherence to transmission-based precautions and core infection control principles.

The core principles are derived from CDC guidelines and are to be in place at all times regardless of the type of visit being conducted. By following a person-centered approach and adhering to these core principles, visitation can occur safely based on the below guidance:

- 1) Screening of all who enter the facility for signs and symptoms of COVID-19 to include:
 - Temperature checks,
 - Questions and observations about signs or symptoms
 - Recent exposure to COVID-19
 - Denial of entry of those with signs or symptoms or those who have had close contact with someone with COVID-19 infection in the prior 14 days (regardless of the visitor's vaccination status)
- 2) Practice Hand hygiene (use of alcohol-based hand rub is preferred)
- 3) Wear well-fitting Face covering or mask (covering mouth and nose)

Visitors who are not able to wear a face mask should use alternatives to on-site visits with your loved one (e.g., telephone or internet communication), particularly if the patient is at increased risk for severe illness from SARS-CoV-2 infection.

4) If a resident is fully vaccinated, the resident may choose to have close contact (including touch) with their visitor while:

- wearing a well-fitting mask
- perform hand hygiene before and after the physical contact

All visitors should practice physically distancing from other residents and staff in the facility. Failure to adhere to the core principles of COVID-19 infection prevention may result in visitors not being permitted to visit or asked to leave.

If a staff member or resident tests positive, the facility will pause all indoor visitation, with some exceptions. Visitation restriction will remain in place until at least one round of facility wide testing is completed. When the facility meets criteria to allow visitation, you will be notified.

We follow guidance from [\(CDC\)](#), [Department of Health \(DOH\)](#) and [Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services \(CMS\)](#).

Our Facility's Resident Impact (May 15, 2020, through May 13, 2021):

Number of cases	
57	Nursing Home: Confirmed residents with laboratory positive COVID-19.
53	Nursing Home: Confirmed staff with laboratory positive COVID-19.
11	Nursing Home: COVID-19 Deaths: Residents with laboratory positive COVID-19 who died in the facility or another location.
6	Personal Care: Confirmed residents with laboratory positive COVID-19
5	Personal Care: Confirmed: staff with laboratory positive COVID-19

We continue to strongly encourage all residents, staff, family members and volunteers to become vaccinated against COVID-19. For information about vaccination information, please check the [CDC's fact sheet](#). You can find vaccines near you at: <https://www.vaccines.gov/search/>

Our vaccination rate is among the best for health facilities in our area and continue to encourage vaccinations by the general population in a quest for overall herd immunity, which experts place at 70-to-80 percent of the United States population.

We are proud to announce that 75% of our staff and 89% of our residents have all been vaccinated!

Thank you again for entrusting us with the care of your loved ones. If you have any questions, we are always available for you.

Sincerely,

Ron Berlingo, NHA