



Dear Residents and Families,

It has been quite some time since we have released a family update. The last few months have been rather uneventful as far as COVID-19 rules and regulations were concerned. This changed quickly, and without much warning. As most of you are aware, Governor DeWine has lifted all the State of Emergency Orders in Ohio. Most of the relaxing of the rules impacted our greater communities, but not the Long Term Care Industry. By revoking all Ohio Health Orders our residents and families finally reap the benefit.

With the lifting of the orders, we can implement open visitation hours from 10 am to 6 pm daily. There are still specific guidelines that we must follow. I have them outlined here:

- All visitors will be required to enter through the Main Street Entrance in order to complete a screening
- Hand hygiene must be completed upon entrance to the facility, and if you are visiting multiple residents, you must complete hand hygiene between visits
- Face covering must be worn in all common areas
 - If both the resident and visitors are fully vaccinated
 - face coverings do not need to be worn in the private visitation location
 - you may choose to have close contact (including touch)
- Visitors must remain physically distanced from other residents and staff while in the building
- Visitors should limit their movement in the facility and go directly to the visitation location
- Visits for residents who share a room should not be conducted in the room if possible
- If the facility experiences an outbreak (defined as one positive test) visitation will be temporarily halted until at least one round of facility-wide testing is completed and the leadership team can assess the results
- Visits that are requested outside of the 10 am – 6 pm timeframe must be scheduled in advance through the Activity or Social Service Department

We continue to extend our gratitude and appreciation for your understanding and support during this last year and a half. We fully understand the faith and trust you put in our team to provide quality of care for your loved ones while we were mitigating a worldwide pandemic. We are elated at the opportunity to open our doors a little more widely to our families, friends and visitors. Thank you for following the guidance we are mandated to implement. As always, any changes will be communicated timely with our residents and with you as friends and family. As a reminder, all updates are regularly uploaded to our website which can be found at www.welcomenursinghome.com. Feel free to reach out with any questions or concerns.

Stay Well,

Heidi J. W. Freas MS OTR/L
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Director of QA