

September 18, 2020

Dear Families and Friends,

With the increase in Covid-19 cases in Personal Care Homes we would like to remind you of what we have been doing and continue to do in efforts to prevent it coming into our home.

First, we continue to follow the Public Health/Shared Health directives and recommendations.

We continue to screen all staff and service providers entering our home. Staff are provided and wear the required personal protective equipment (PPE), we audit PPE use, are practicing physical distancing where possible and are continuing with increased environmental cleaning.

Visitors are screening and performing hand hygiene on entry, wearing masks, not using public areas in the home, visiting only in suites, provided a disinfectant wipe to use on any item touched in the suite upon departure. Items brought into the home for the Elders are disinfected or quarantined before going into the suites.

Please ensure you complete the entire screening form complete with phone number and suite number. This information becomes quickly necessary if there is a confirmed Covid case and we must complete contact tracing and contact you.

Bringing items into the Home

- Packaged food must allow for cleaning/disinfection upon arrival (e.g. plastic container) No cardboard boxes or Styrofoam will be permitted.
- Single serving beverages allowed (e.g. coffee/tea, pop)
- Food must be in a plastic container that can be disinfected (e.g. fruit, home baking) A plastic fruit container from the grocery store is not appropriate.
- Non-perishable food items must be stored in the Elder's suite.
- Clothing and non-food items that can not be cleaned/disinfected will be quarantined for 48 hours before an Elder receives it.

We can not sort through bags on their arrival. Please ensure food items are separated from clothing and other personal items prior to arrival or all must be quarantined for 48 hours.

Items disinfected/quarantined may take from 1-3 days to be delivered to the Elder.

Food items you bring inside a disposable plastic bag will be disinfected and put into a clean disposable bag provided by the home. Your bag will be discarded and you may take the one provided by the home with you when you leave.

Many of our Elders have too many items in their closets and dressers. While visiting, please go through the closet and dresser and remove excess items. Laundry is done daily. There is no need for an over abundance of clothes. We will also package up excess and label for you to take home.

Visits

Beginning October 7th, we will no longer be offering outdoor visits on Wednesday evenings. Wednesday evenings from 6:00- 8:00 will be added as an indoor Designated Essential Visitor time slot. Our outdoor Visiting Pod and Indoor Visiting Room will soon be under construction. We expect construction to be completed by October 31st. These two (2) areas will take the place of outdoor visits once they are ready.

Covid-19 Testing

If you become ill and go for Covid-testing or, if you were in contact with someone and told by Public Health to go for Covid-19 testing, please notify us. We will closely monitor your loved one for symptoms until you notify us of your results.

We have had a number of requests to change visiting hours to include meal times. Family members would like to assist their loved one to eat. This would be really nice but we can not accommodate mealtime hours at this time. There are a few reasons for this. It is not a time when we can have screeners available and we do not have the manpower it would take to offer tray service. Visiting hours are during our Elders snack time. Please enjoy assisting them with their beverage and snack at those times.

As always, please feel free to reach out to a member of the Leadership Team with any questions or concerns you may have.

That's it for this week. Have a wonderful weekend!

Warm regards,

Kim Rohm
Administrator