

Dear Family members and Friends,

8/5/2020

We are beyond blessed to report to you that we are once again COVID FREE!! What this means for you and your loved ones is that we can begin to move through the reopening phases for nursing and personal care homes. This process is a formal Directive given to **ALL** licensed Nursing and Personal Care homes from the Department of Health. Thus all of the following guidelines that we will explain in this letter are mandated requirements from the Department of Health. To limit the exposure of COVID -19 and ensure the continued safety and security of our residents and staff, we ask that you read this letter thoroughly and please abide by all of the stipulations put forth.

Part of the reopening allows us to open the beauty/barber salon which will begin today. We know everyone will be happy over this much needed service. It will take a while to get everyone in for a haircut. No perms or coloring will be done until everyone has a haircut. OLAR and nursing home residents will not be in the beauty salon together.

Small group activities will also be possible as will attendance at Mass on select days so as to maintain social distance and cohort segregation.

Communal dining room services will resume. Residents will be socially distant and separated by unit.

This reopening does allow for onsite supervised face to face visits. There will be designated assigned visitation stations for Our Lady of the Alleghenies and Garvey Manor Nursing Home residents.

Visits will begin the week of August 10th.

Visits must be scheduled ahead of time and will be scheduled for 30 minutes at a time. You will schedule the visits as you did the window and virtual visits by calling 814-695-5571. For Our Lady of the Alleghenies you will need to speak with Michelle Bookhammer or Denise Becker. For Garvey Manor you will need to speak with someone in the activities department. When scheduling your visit, we must know the name(s) of who will visit. **Ordinarily this should be no more than two people.**

We will do our best to accommodate everyone's schedules and requests. Please be patient with us as we know everyone will be anxious to see their loved one. Please try to limit your visit to once a week at least for this initial start of opening.

No standing appointments will be taken.

Residents who are isolated or quarantined for any reason cannot participate in Face to Face or window visits until they are out of isolation/quarantine. Those residents can only participate in virtual visits.

**When you arrive for your visit:**

1. Please arrive 15 minutes early for your visit as you will need to drive through the screening station first. The screening station will be located at the tent near the ELK at the end of the first parking lot. At the screening station you will need to sign in and have your temperature taken. You will also need to fill out a screening form, and be asked a series of questions. **IF you feel**

**sick or are experiencing a fever, sore throat, cough, chills, headache etc. DO NOT come for your visit. If you have been at a group function without masking and social distancing DO NOT come for your visit. Call and reschedule your visit.** This is imperative. You will not be permitted on campus if you are ill or are exhibiting and signs or symptoms of an illness.

2. When you schedule your visit and at the screening station you will need to provide your contact information such as name, address, and phone number. This is necessary in the event that contact tracing is required.
3. Once you are screened you may park your car and wait to approach your designated visitor station. The screener will tell you the location of your visit.
4. Stations must be sanitized between visits so do not approach your station until the previous visit has concluded, the visitors are in their vehicle, and the station has been sanitized.
5. You should not approach any other residents or visitors while on campus for your visit.
6. Per the Department of Health all visits must be observed. We will have staff or volunteers on site.
7. During your visit please adhere to the follow mandatory requirements.
  - a. Sanitize hands before and after visit.
  - b. Mask at ALL times for anyone over the age of 2. **You must bring your own mask. Masks will not be provided.**
  - c. Maintain a 6' distance at all times. Tables will be placed between resident and visitors.
  - d. No touching, hugging, or kissing the resident
  - e. DO NOT bring anything to give to the resident. Deliveries are to be at the white tent.
  - f. Respect the 30 minute time limit for your visit.
  - g. No PETS allowed for face to face visits.
  - h. **At the end of your visit you will be required to sign-out. Please bring your own pen.**
8. If any of the following requirements are breached by a family member, the Department of Health does state that we do have the right and must halt any visit immediately. Please note that if you do breach any of these requirements YOU yourself would then be considered **exposed** and should quarantine yourself for 14 days. The resident may also be quarantined.
9. Ordinarily two visitors will be permitted per resident. Children must be accompanied/supervised by an adult and are included in visitor count. Children must not approach the resident either.
10. Visitors who refuse to be screened will not be permitted to visit in-person; they will be informed of the procedure to schedule a window or virtual visit.
11. In the event of inclement weather we will do our best to reroute the visitation stations to "neutral" areas within the facility. Staff will direct you if this occurs.
12. Visitation times will be staggered so that there is time between visits to clean visitor stations and prepare for the next visit. Times must be strictly monitored. If you are late for your visit, your visit will still end at the assigned time.
13. For visitation time slots please refer to the attached reopening plan on page 2. When you call to schedule your visit, the staff member will assist in placing you in an open visitation slot.
14. You must check out at the screening station after your visit. You will be asked to sign the form. Please bring your own pen.

The summary of the actual reopening plan will be posted on our website and is attached to this email. We encourage you to read it thoroughly as it is very detailed. You may want to review it before your visit or bring it with you when you visit so that you can refer to the specific instructions outlined in the plan.

We hope and pray that all of these procedures and protocols will allow us to continue to move forward with our reopening plan and remain COVID FREE. That is why is so very important that we ALL follow these procedures. Just as our staff has been committed and vigilant, we ask that you also are committed to the safety of our residents and staff. **If you have traveled to a state that is a hot spot, been to a large group function where masking was not used, or another high exposure scenario PLEASE do not visit our campus.**

Most importantly please note. This re-opening plan could change at any time. If we were to experience a positive test result of Covid on our campus we would need to once again go into quarantine mode . Again, this is not our rule. This is the mandate from the Department of Health.

Any questions can be directed to Administration. If you would like to view the Deaprtmetn of Health guidelines on COVID-19 you can refer to the PA department of Health at [www.health.pa.gov](http://www.health.pa.gov).

God Bless and thank you for your continued support and prayers as we progress through this pandemic together.

Sr. Joachim Ferenchak, Administration