

Family Communication

July 20, 2021

Hello to all! It's been a couple of weeks since we have sent any communication since there was nothing new to report. In the meantime, some questions have come up from families, so we thought we should send this update to you.

At this time, there have been **no changes** to the guidance we are required to follow as directed by the Departments of Health and Human Services (DOH, DHS), the Centers for Medicare/Medicaid Services (CMS) or the Centers for Disease Control (CDC). We believe that any changes related to long-term care facilities will not be made while the state monitors the spread of the COVID-19 Delta variant and how it is affecting other states.

Below are some reminders and some additional information to assist you.

Visits

- Visits are to be scheduled preferably through the "Visits" section of our website (www.garveymanor.org) or by calling (814) 317-1231 (Garvey Manor) or (814) 317-1285 (Our Lady of the Alleghenies). Calls are answered Monday-Friday as we are able. If you call on a weekend, your call will not be returned until Monday at the earliest.
- We still are required by our regulations to monitor capacity in the building; scheduling visits is the best way for us to do so. There are ample time slots on weekdays and weekends. Most of the time there are open slots not filled on any given day.
- Please note that our online visit schedule is closed at noon the day before weekdays and noon on Friday for Saturday/Sunday/Monday. You may be able to see open visits, but you will not be able to schedule if you are attempting to do so past noon.
- We respectfully ask that visits be limited to two visitors for one hour.
- Visits are to occur in the resident's room or in a designated visit area only. This is also a regulatory requirement. Please, especially in the Marian Center (E1 and E2) units, do not visit in common areas (family room, dining room, etc.).
- If you wish to visit outdoors, please check with the staff as to where you are permitted to visit. Please disinfect the area when you are finished visiting. A disposable cloth for disinfecting the chairs used for your visit are available near the door to the courtyards, and in the foyers of the main lobbies. We are obligated to assure furniture used outside of a resident's room is disinfected for the next visitors who may use the furniture.
- **ALL VISITORS** are **REQUIRED** to wear masks **upon entry to the building** and **while in the building**. Masks may be removed in the resident's room **IF** the resident **AND** the visitor are fully vaccinated. Otherwise, visitors are required to mask in the room, too.
- If visitors wish to bring in food to share with the resident, **ALL present must be fully vaccinated**. If the resident or the visitors are not vaccinated, then masks are required and food/drink must not be consumed since that would require the removal of masks.

Deliveries

- Deliveries still can be made to the tent by the white fence. Please put all items in a bag with the resident's name, room number, and the name and phone number of the person making the delivery. Make sure the bag is tied shut so that items are not lost in transport.
- For Garvey Manor Nursing Home residents, if you bring items in for your loved one when you are visiting, please make sure you alert staff that you made a delivery. This is especially important for clothing or other items (blankets, bedding, etc.). Our staff marks such items with the resident's name so

that the items get returned to the correct person after being laundered. Any food items have to be in a proper container and marked with the resident's name and date. Cookies or candy in resident rooms must be stored in sealed plastic containers. Please help us avoid ants. We ARE located in the section of the township known as Ant Hill for a reason!!

It has been wonderful seeing many of our resident's families and friends. We continue to pray that our residents, employees, and all of you remain safe from COVID-19. Please be vigilant as we see the Delta variant spread throughout the country. God Bless You!

Joann Kasun

Assistant Administrator