

Dear Families of Residents in Garvey Manor Nursing Home:

Over the past few weeks, COVID cases in the community have decreased dramatically. We know this virus lives on and has mutated into variants, but we also recognize that the threat is not as great to our residents, most of whom are fully vaccinated and, therefore, better protected.

We are pleased to announce that we had no positive results from staff testing on Monday, June 28! We are, therefore, expanding our visitation schedule beginning Tuesday, July 6. By providing up to 36 visits on weekend days and 72 visits on weekdays, we believe that most of our residents will be able to have a visit a day!

We will continue to *schedule* visits because we still are required to monitor capacity within our building. We hope you will find this schedule much more accommodating and allows us to, once again, exhibit our Values of Hospitality and Compassion.

Visitation still will be completed through our online scheduling tool. Visits will remain limited to two people per resident for one hour, for now. Requests for additional visitors or longer visit times for special occasions can be made to the activities department.

We will start with this plan to ensure that we are able to maintain our required protocols and handle the additional traffic through the screening process. We will reevaluate as needed and update you with any changes.

Please review the information below (which will be included on our website and in the online scheduling) so you are completely aware of the requirements we must follow to keep our residents protected. Changes to our original guidelines are highlighted.

VISITATION GUIDELINES AND INSTRUCTIONS

- Visit our website, www.garveymanor.org and click on Visits in the top right section.
- Select Garvey Manor. You will be directed to the "Time to Sign Up" website which will show available dates and times.
- Select your desired date and time slot, click on the gray box that appears, and complete the registration information.
- An automated confirmation email will be sent to you after your appointment has been submitted.
- Visit schedules are closed at noon the day before and at noon on Friday for weekend and Monday visits.
- If you are unable to use this scheduling tool, visits can be scheduled by calling (814) 317-1231. Our staff will respond to messages in the order in which they are received.

Please note:

- We still are required to monitor capacity within the building to ensure social distancing protocols are maintained.
- Visits times are available to allow our residents to participate in Mass, activities, and meals. **Visits must end by 12:00 pm for lunch and 5:00 pm for supper.**
- Visits can only occur in areas that are considered green zones (meaning there have been no positive cases of COVID-19 in any resident or employee in that area) and with residents who are not in quarantine status.
- Visits may be altered or suspended should an outbreak of COVID-19 occur in the facility. An outbreak exists when a new case of COVID-19 among residents or staff is identified.

Before You Visit:

- All visitors must enter and exit through the Garvey Manor main entrance and **sign IN and OUT using the kiosk.**
 - All visitors will be screened for COVID-19 symptoms and exposure risks before proceeding through the building to your visit. Visitors who are identified as high risk will not be permitted to visit in person and will either have their visit converted to a virtual or window visit if available or will be given instructions on how to schedule a virtual or window visit on a future date.

- An electronic kiosk will be used for visitor screening. Please allow time before your scheduled visit to complete this process.

Do NOT visit if . . .

- You or anyone in your household is feeling ill, has a fever, is showing any signs or symptoms of illness, or is awaiting COVID-19 test results.
- You have been exposed to a person with confirmed or suspected COVID-19 within the 14 days prior to your visit (regardless of the visitor's vaccination status).

Guidelines:

- A resident may have one visit per day, if available, for a time period of up to 60 minutes.
- Visitors will be required to complete an electronic screening process to sign in prior to the visit and will be required to sign out after the visit.
- Ordinarily, two visitors are permitted per resident. Children are included in the visitor count, must be accompanied/supervised by an adult, and must mask if over 2 years old.
- Pets are permitted as long as they are leashed and compliant with our pet policy.

Visitation Locations:

- Outdoor visitation is preferred when weather permits.
- Indoor visits may occur ONLY in designated neutral visitation spaces or in resident rooms, not in common areas (family rooms, hallways, dining rooms, etc.).

INFECTION CONTROL GUIDELINES (Must be followed for visits to occur)

Screening: All visitors must be screened upon entry for signs/symptoms of illness and risk of exposure, regardless of vaccination status. *Visitors are required to sign out when leaving.*

Hand Hygiene: All visitors must use hand sanitizer before entering the facility, before entering an elevator, before entering a resident's room or the designated visitation space, before and after touching a resident.

Face Covering: All visitors must mask before entering the facility (covering nose and mouth) and remain masked through the building. Masks may be removed in the resident's room *IF* both the resident **AND** the visitor(s) are fully vaccinated. Otherwise visitors must mask in the room too.

Social Distancing: Maintain a 6-foot distance between resident and visitor for the majority of visit. Fully vaccinated residents and fully vaccinated visitors can visit in the resident's room without masking or being limited to brief touch.

Going to/from visit

Visitors will be given instructions, if needed, on the direct route to and from their loved one's visitation area. Please only proceed along that route and do not stop to talk to other residents, visitors, or employees along the way. *Masks must be worn at all times when outside of the resident's room.*

Outdoor Visitation

If you wish to visit outside, please

- Mask before leaving the resident's room
- Notify the unit staff before taking the resident off of the unit.
- Take a direct route to the outdoor location.
- Maintain social distancing if others are visiting in that area.
- Use the wipes provided to disinfect the chairs/tables **after you visit.**

If you had a visit scheduled, your visit day and time were transferred to the updated schedules. Please verify that your visit is correct.

If you would like to make any adjustments to your visit date or time, please follow the instructions provided to change your visit or call for assistance.

We have longed for the time when we could "open" our facility more, for the sake of our residents who miss seeing their family and friends. We trust that God will continue to guide and protect us. We ask each of you to not only keep our residents and our facility in your prayers, but to also do your part to keep our residents safe when you visit.

Thank you,

Joann Kasun, Assistant Administrator