

**The Lutheran Home for the Aged Association-East**  
**Indoor Visitation**  
**09/30/2020**

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid (CMS) and Centers for Disease Control (CDC) has provided long term care facilities with **updated** visitation guidance. While taking a person-centered approach and adhering to the core principles of COVID-19 infection prevention, various means of visitation shall be provided. Many of the previous provisions will remain in place. The Conditions of Visitation are outlined below, and we ask that you carefully review them.

## CONDITIONS OF VISITATION

LHAA-E believes that the risk of COVID transmission in long-term care facilities and the need for family, partner or close friend interactions can be balanced under the following conditions.

Visitation may be conducted through various means based on a facility's structure and residents' needs. LHAA-E facilities will provide visitation in the following manner:

- **Virtual visits, i.e., Zoom, Facetime and Skype, are always a viable option for visiting with your loved one.**
- Window visits are available for those who desire to converse with a resident via window and cell phone, I-pad, video chat, and other means of technology.
- Outdoor visits are preferred and will be conducted as previously outlined and will be held whenever practicable. Outdoor visits pose a lower risk of transmission due to increased space and airflow.
  - Visits are only allowed in spaces where adequate social distancing can take place. Outside visits shall be made only where protection from the elements can be provided.
  - **The safety of our residents/tenants will always be considered when scheduling or holding an outdoor visit. In the event of unsuitable conditions, a visit will be unable to be scheduled or may need to be scheduled for inside, i.e., excessive hot or cold temperatures, high wind or high humidity, per resident/tenant tolerance.**
- Indoor visits may be conducted in the event of inclement weather (excessive heat or cold temperatures).
  - Visits are only allowed if there has been no new onset of COVID-19 cases in the last 14 days and the facility is not currently conducting outbreak testing.
  - Visitors must adhere to the core principles (listed below), the facility is not conducting outbreak testing and has a county positivity rate of less than 10%, **per CMS guidelines.**

- Compassionate care situations may be conducted in resident rooms when an individual's health status warrants such visit as determined by the Facility Care Team.

Regardless of how visits are conducted, there are certain core principles and best practices that reduce the risk of COVID-19 transmission:

## Facility Criteria

- The facility shall limit the number of visitors
  - **Vinton Assisted Living visits are limited to 2 visits per week per tenant.**
- Visits must be scheduled and approved prior to the visit by calling:
  - **Vinton Lutheran Home - Makayla at 319-472-4751.**
  - **Davenport Lutheran Home – at 563-391-5342**
  - **Vinton Assisted Living – 319-472-2092.**
  - **Davenport Assisted Living – 563-386-6933**
- Visits may be scheduled according to the following guidelines:
  - **Vinton Lutheran Home - Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m.—4:00 p.m., excluding holidays.**
  - **Davenport Lutheran Home & Assisted Living –Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m.—4:00 p.m., during normal business hours.**
  - **Vinton Assisted Living – Monday – Friday, 8:30a.m. – 11:00 a.m., and 2:00 p.m. – 4:00p.m.**
- Limit of 2 visitors at a time (over the age of 12, unless otherwise approved).
- Each visit is limited to 30 minutes.
- Visits shall occur in designated areas only, and **visitors are not allowed in any other area of the facility.**
- Staff will assist with the visit transition of residents/tenants, monitoring of visit (giving the resident/tenant as much privacy as possible) and will be responsible to wipe down visitation areas after each family, partner or friendship visit.
- Face masks will be worn throughout the duration of all visits. The facility will supply the resident/tenant with the appropriate face mask. Visitors should bring their own approved face mask. If at any time during the visit, resident/tenant or visitor are observed not wearing the appropriate face mask properly, a warning will be given the first time and if continues, the visit will cease.
- Visitation must allow appropriate social distancing of at least 6 feet between visitors and loved ones. Because of the social distancing requirement to prevent potential transmission of the virus, there shall be no physical contact between visitors and resident/tenant, including hugging, touching, kissing.

- The facility will provide alcohol-based hand rub to families visiting residents/tenants and demonstrate how to use it appropriately if necessary.
- **Failure to comply with guidelines will constitute a reasonable safety concern and result in a warning. Visitation restrictions may occur if continued issues are noted.**
- Areas where visitors and residents/tenants sit must be wiped down between visits with an approved antiviral disinfectant.

## Core Principles of COVID-19 Infection Prevention

- Screening of all who enter the facility for signs and symptoms of COVID-19 (e.g., temperature checks, questions or observations about signs or symptoms), and denial of entry of those with signs or symptoms
- Hand hygiene (use of alcohol-based hand rub is preferred)
- **Facemask (covering mouth and nose)**
- Social distancing at least six feet between persons

## Resident/Tenant Criteria

- Residents/tenants must be screened for signs and symptoms of COVID-19 prior to the visit (see screening below) and be free of the outlined symptoms, or the visit will not be allowed. A scheduled visit will be cancelled, even at the last minute if a symptom(s) develops, or if an outbreak of symptoms occurs within the facility.
- Residents/Tenants who are on transmission-based precautions for COVID-19 should only receive visits that are virtual, through windows, or in-person for compassionate care situations.
- Residents/Tenants must be able to wear a face mask during the visit.
- Residents/Tenant must have the ability to safely transition from their room to the designated visit location with assistance.
- Every attempt will be made to schedule visit requests and limited only by available appointment times and staffing. If demand exceeds our expectation and capability, priority measures will be established.

## Visitor Criteria

- Visitors must be screened for signs and symptoms of COVID-19, logged in, and provide contact information for contact tracing purposes prior to the visit (see screening below), and must be free of outlined symptoms, or the visit will not be allowed.

- Visitors must also attest to their COVID status (testing results). If the visitor has had COVID-19, they must provide documentation (e.g., doctor's note) that they no longer meet CDC criteria for transmission-based precautions.
- Resident/tenant and visitor(s) must wear a face covering or mask (properly) for the duration of the visit. Therefore, food or beverage must not be provided during the visit. However, food brought by a visitor may be given to the facility employee for the resident/tenant to enjoy later.
- Hand hygiene must be completed with alcohol-based hand rub before and after visit.
- Visitors must stay in designated facility locations.
- Visitation should be restricted to children 12 years of age or older. Visitors with children must be able to manage them, and children must be able to wear a face mask during the entire visit. Special family circumstances warranting children under the age of 12 to visit can be approved by individual facilities.
- Pets will not be allowed.

## Screening Criteria:

All visitors, residents/tenants will be required to have their temperature taken and complete the screening process for COVID-19 symptoms. If any of the following symptoms are present, or are noted during the visit, the visit will not commence or must immediately cease.

- Fever, equal to or greater than 100.0 F
- New or Worsening Cough
- New or Worsening Shortness of Breath
- Chills or Shaking with Chills
- Muscle Pain or Body Aches
- Headache
- Nausea and/or Vomiting
- Diarrhea
- Sore Throat
- New Loss of Taste/Smell
- Congestion/Runny Nose
- Confusion
- Severe Fatigue -Lethargy and/or Inability to Waken or Stay Awake
- Persistent Pain in the Chest
- Bluish Lips or Face
- Have you been tested for COVID-19 in the past 10 days?
- Have you been out of the country in the past 14 days?
- Have you been in any areas that have had an outbreak of COVID-19 in the past 14 days?

**\*\*\*\*It is critical for the safety and well-being of our residents/tenants, for any visitor that develops symptoms consistent with COVID-19 within two days of a visit to alert the facility.\*\*\***