



May 2023

To Our McHarrie Life Community:

We would like to inform you that the New York State Department of Health (DOH) has modified their directives on visitation/testing in nursing homes; that we believe allows for less restrictive in-person visits between residents and their families, under specific rules and guidelines.

Our revised plan for visitation includes provisions and DOH guidelines that seek to ensure the health and safety of everyone (residents, staff and visitors) and must always be followed. Our visitation safety plan is on file with New York State and as per the DOH, our ability to allow visitation may be impacted by a COVID diagnosis in any of our residents or staff.

Enclosed, is a copy of our Visitation Safety Plan/Fact Sheet. Everyone will be required to adhere to all conditions. This visitation plan is subject to change. As per DOH directive, if any visitor fails to adhere to the protocols, they will be prohibited from visiting for the duration of the state declared public health emergency.

Visits may take place indoors or outdoors; complete a health screen and staff will monitor to ensure safety guidelines are being followed. **NYS no longer requires that all visitors present a negative test result.**

Please note that all other options to stay connected will continue (telephone, facetime, etc.)

If our ability to continue with visitation changes, we will notify you.

Thank you for your continued support during these unusual times. We look forward to seeing more of you on our campus.

Sincerely,

Mark Murphy

CEO

Visitation Safety Plan/Fact Sheet

1. Visits will take place 7 days per week. The receptionist is generally present at the door Monday – Friday, between 8:00am and 8pm; Saturday and Sunday, between 10:00am – 8pm.
2. If you do not feel well, please do not visit.
3. Screening questions may be required upon entrance to the facility.
4. Visitation may occur regardless of vaccination status.
5. Visitors are encouraged to test within 2-3 days before coming to the facility during high levels of community transmission.
6. Visitors may *choose* to wear a mask at any time. Mask use may *be required* when visiting. *When the CDC Community Hospitalization Admission Level is elevated or when there are active COVID cases in our facility, A MASK MUST BE WORN UPON ENTERING THE FACILITY.* Please observe signage at the facility about mask requirements and adhere to any masking requirement during your visit.
7. Wash your hands frequently with soap and water or use an alcohol-based hand rub while in the facility.
8. During peak times of visitation and large gatherings, visitors are encouraged to physically distance themselves from others.
9. Visitors who choose not to defer their visits during a facility outbreak are encouraged to: Limit their movement in the facility and physically distance when possible.
10. Residents on Transmission Based Protocol or quarantine may still receive visitors, but visitors should understand the potential risk of visiting and know the precautions necessary for such visits. Additional personal protective equipment may be required.
11. Visitors who have had a recent positive viral test for COVID-19, symptoms of COVID-19, or have had close contact with someone with COVID-19, are asked to defer their visit. It is safest to defer non-urgent in-person visitation until 10 days after close contact if they meet criteria described in CDC healthcare guidance.
12. This Visitation Safety Plan is subject to change.

Failing to adhere to core infection control measures which result in putting other residents at risk will prohibit you from visiting.