

**Samaritan Summit Village COVID-19:  
Visitation Plan  
Compassionate Care Visits  
Personal Caregivers  
Communal Dining and Recreational Activities  
Leave of Absence**

*Samaritan Summit Village will utilize a variety of methods to ensure residents receive the interaction with visitors to which they are entitled.*

**Visitation Plan**

**Overview**

- Visitation Hours will be 10am to 6:30pm - 7 days a week
- Visitors are not required to be tested or vaccinated.
- Upon entering the facility for a visit, the family member(s) must be screened, (see screening process).
- Visitors must wear a mask and adhere to core Infection Control standards
- Visitors who have been vaccinated may take off their mask while in the resident's room, and they may touch the resident if the resident has been vaccinated. Their mask must be on when traveling through the facility to the resident's room.
- If resident is not vaccinated, visitors must maintain social distance while visiting.
- Visits may be up to 2 hours in duration
- Each resident may have up to 3 visitors at a time.
- Children under the age of 16 must be accompanied by an adult and count as a visitor. (Mother and baby would be the 2 visitors.) Changes to the number of visitors will be left to the discretion of Administration and/or the Nursing Supervisor.
- Pets will also be allowed if the shot record is provided prior to the visit.
- No resident or visitor may visit the café on the first floor at this time.
- Visitors should maintain social distancing as appropriate and adhere to core Infection Control practices, if not they will be asked to leave.
- Any questions or requests for exceptions need to be addressed with the Infection Control Preventionist or Administrator on call.

### **Window Visits**

If window visits are deemed necessary, they will occur in the main lobby of SSV. Visitors will be scheduled for a 60-minute visit and the resident will be placed inside the lobby by the window with a speaker for communication. The visitors will be asked to enter the visitation booth through the external door outside of the cafe area, on the other side of the window so they may see their loved one and communicate via telephone. Staff will ensure that visitors do not enter the gift shop at any time. All window visits must be scheduled with the Recreation Therapy Department in advance.

### **Indoor Visits in Designated Area**

In-person visits may occur on the first floor in the private dining room or in the multipurpose room. The resident will be allowed 3 visitors. Children under the age of 16 must be accompanied by an adult and count as a visitor. (For example: mother and baby would be 2 visitors.) Changes to the number of visitors will be left to the discretion of Administration and/or the Nursing Supervisor.

Pets will also be allowed if the shot record is provided prior to the visit. Upon entering the facility for a visit, the family member must be screened, (see screening process) and then they will be escorted to the visitation room and provided the Visitor Expectation Handout (Attachment #2).

### **On Unit Visits**

When in-person visitation is allowed on the units, in addition to the provisions for indoor visits above, the following will occur:

Visits should occur in resident's room, unless resident is eating a meal in dining room and wishes for visitor to be present. In that case, visitor may visit in dining room (visitor may not eat). Visitor must be socially distanced and only interact with resident who they are visiting. Only one resident in a semi-private room may have visitors at one time.

Visitor will not be allowed to see multiple residents per visit, exception: husband/wife or other related residents may have combined visit in a common area such as the quiet lounge.

Visitors should proceed directly to site of visitation and then directly out of the building, no lingering in hallways and highly populated resident areas.

Any resident who is on precautions for C.Diff, MRSA, ESBL etc., the visitor must wear appropriate PPE while entering the room for visitation.

Newly admitted residents on admission COVID precautions may have visitors, however the visitors must wear full PPE.

If both the visitors and resident are fully vaccinated, the visitor and resident may eat and drink while in the resident's room. Food will not be provided by the facility and disposable silverware will be available upon request.

### **Staff Responsibilities**

Window visits and indoor visits not on unit will be scheduled ahead of time by the Recreation Therapy Director or Designee. The staff scheduling will collect the following demographic information from the 2 identified visitors and log it in the visitor log:

First and Last name

Physical (street) address

Daytime and evening phone number

Email address, if available

Recreation Therapy Staff member or designee will be assigned to screen, log, supervise visits, and ensure disinfecting of visitation area after each visit. Areas to be disinfected include (but may not be limited to): seating areas, tables or other physical barrier touched by resident/visitor during visit, door handles, etc.

During times of open, on-unit visitation, visits do not need to be scheduled ahead of time. When visitors arrive, they will be screened as below. Housekeeping will ensure disinfecting of visitation area after each visit. Areas to be disinfected include (but may not be limited to): seating areas, tables or other physical barrier touched by resident/visitor during visit, door handles, etc.

### **Visitation Screening Process**

Upon arrival to visit, the visitors will be screened at the visitor screening station with the Visitor Screening Tool (Attachment #1). Visitors will be screened for signs and symptoms of COVID-19, interaction with COVID-19 known or potentially positive individuals, and have their temperatures taken.

Visitation will be refused if the individual(s) exhibits any COVID-19 symptoms or do not pass the screening questions.

If the resident has not been vaccinated then the resident will wear a facemask or face covering which covers both the nose and mouth if able to physically tolerate. Visitors who have not been vaccinated must wear a facemask or face covering which covers both the nose and mouth at all times when on the premises. Visitors must maintain social distancing during the duration of their visit. If the visitor has been vaccinated then they may remove their face mask once in the resident room if the resident has been fully vaccinated.

Visitors will be required to perform hand hygiene with alcohol-based hand rub (ABHR) containing at least 60% alcohol prior to and after visiting.

Current COVID-19 positive residents, residents with COVID-19 signs or symptoms, and residents in a 14 day quarantine or observation period are not eligible for visits.

If any visitor fails to adhere to the protocol, he/she/they will be prohibited from visiting the duration of the COVID-19 state declared public health emergency.

If there is new onset COVID-19 among a resident or staff member, visitation will be reviewed and suspended if necessary per NYSDOH guidelines. Additionally, visitation may be suspended at any time if the facility feels that it is in the best interest of the residents.

## **Compassionate Care Visits**

Indoor Compassionate Care visits are allowed under the current executive order guidance from NYSDOH. Screening must be completed following the screening process noted above.

### **Reasons for compassionate care visits may include:**

- Newly admitted residents with difficulty adjusting to the facility environment and lack of in-person family support.

- Residents grieving the loss of a friend or loved one.
- Residents who previously received in-person support and/or cueing from family for eating and drinking and are now experiencing dehydration and/or weight loss.
- Residents who are exhibiting signs and symptoms of emotional distress including, but not limited to, seldom speaking or crying more frequently (when the resident rarely cried in the past), refusing to participate in an activity or activities, staying in bed longer than usual, or exhibiting behavior considered abnormal for the individual.
- Residents who receive religious or spiritual support from clergy or another layperson.

### **Compassionate care visits to include:**

- Visitation in the resident's room
- There may be up to (3) visitors at one time
- The visit may be up to (3) hours in duration, once per day
- Compassionate care visitation will occur between the hours of 10 AM – 6:30 PM, unless arranged with the unit and/or Supervisor.

If a resident or visitor feels that a compassionate care visit is appropriate, they will inform the nurse, who, after consultation with the interdisciplinary team and infection prevention, will obtain an order for such visits.

Additional compassionate care situations/exceptions may be considered by the facility on a resident-specific basis. These situations should be discussed with the Provider, Infection Preventionist and Administration if needed in order to best meet the needs of our population.

## **Personal Caregivers**

### **Definitions:**

Personal Caregiving Visitor - a family member, close friend, or legal guardian of a resident designated by such resident or resident's lawful representative, to assist with personal caregiving or compassionate caregiving for the resident.

Personal Caregiving – Care and support of a resident to benefit such resident’s mental, physical, or social well-being.

### **Overview**

- Visitation will be allowed even when the facility has to suspend regular visitation due to an outbreak or Public Health Emergency.
- Visitation hours, length of stay and frequency will be arranged with the facility and Unit the resident resides on, and follow the guidelines noted below.
- Visitors are not required to be tested or vaccinated.
- Visitors must be screened upon entering.
- Visitors must wear a mask and adhere to core Infection Control standards at all times.
- Each resident may have only 2 visitors at a time and if the resident’s roommate has visitors at the same time an alternate place for a visit will be provided.
- No resident or visitor may visit the café on the first floor at this time.
- Any questions or requests for exceptions need to be addressed with the Infection Control Preventionist or Administrator on call.
- The facility may temporarily suspend or limit personal caregiving visitors to protect the health, safety and welfare of residents per Section 415.3 of 10 NYCRR 3(b)(c).

### **Identification of Personal Caregiving Visitor**

- The facility will ask residents, or their designated representatives in the event that the resident lacks capacity, upon admission or re-admission who they elect to serve as their personal caregiving visitor during declared public health emergencies.
- A copy of this written record will be maintained with the comprehensive plan of care.
- This record will be reviewed quarterly and with any resident change of condition.

### **Frequency and Duration of Visits**

- The personal caregiver will work with the unit the resident is on to identify the times and days they will be visiting.
- To allow for all residents to have the opportunity for visits and provide the appropriate staffing to screen visitors, clean and disinfect areas, and provide support to all residents the facility will follow the following guidelines:

- No more than 2 visitors per resident at a time
- Visits may occur between the hours of 10 AM and 6:30 PM - 7 days a week
- Visitors may stay for a maximum of 2 hours per day unless an alternate time frame is determined by the Provider and Interdisciplinary Team.
- At no time will there be more than 50 visitors allowed in the facility at any given time (personal caregivers as well as regular visitors).

## **Communal Dining and Recreational Activities**

Consistent with CMS and CDC guidance, communal dining and activities may occur while adhering to the core principles of COVID-19 infection prevention. Communal dining may occur without the use of face coverings or physical distancing, if all residents are fully vaccinated. If there are unvaccinated residents in attendance then they should be socially distanced and wearing a face mask as appropriate.

Larger group activities may occur if the residents are fully vaccinated and the facility adheres to the core principles of COVID-19 infection prevention. If residents are not fully vaccinated, they must wear a face mask and be physically distanced from other residents. Entertainers and speakers coming into the facility to present before a group of residents must follow the requirements the facility has for all staff which includes:

- Upon entering the facility all staff and visitors will be screened
- All visitors and staff will be required to wear a face mask
- All unvaccinated staff will be required to be tested for COVID monthly

## **Leave of Absence**

**Residents who are not vaccinated who leave the facility for more than 23 hours must:**

- Quarantine or minimize contact to the extent safely possible prior to their return to the facility.
- Test negative immediately upon return to the facility.
- Be quarantined on transmission-based precautions upon return to the facility for 14 days.

- Be tested at least three times during the 14-day quarantine period at the facility, including on the first day upon return, and the last day that a resident must be quarantined.
- Require the leaving resident and a family or friend attest in writing that they:
  - Are aware of the risks involved with taking the resident out of the facility;
  - Will follow masking, social distancing, and hand hygiene practices pursuant to CDC and DOH directives;
  - Will notify the facility if the resident becomes ill within one week of leaving the facility;
  - Will notify the facility if anyone with whom the resident socialized tests positive for COVID-19 or influenza or exhibits symptoms of COVID-19 and influenza within 14 days of the resident's return to the facility;
  - Will communicate with the facility about a return date for the resident to the facility in accordance with the facility's policy; and
  - Will quarantine or minimize contact (or assist the resident to do so) to the extent safely possible prior to return to a nursing home.
- Screen and increase monitoring for signs and symptoms of illness upon resident return.

## Attachment #1

## Visitor Screening Tool

1. *(Point to screening board)* Do you have any of the listed signs or symptoms?

Yes/No

2. In the past 14 days, have you had contact with someone with a confirmed diagnosis of COVID-19, or under investigation for COVID-19, or are ill with respiratory illness?

Yes/No

3. Take temperature of visitor. If 100.0°F or higher, explain that they are not allowed to visit with fever.

### **If YES to any question, or temperature 100.0°F or higher:**

- Do not allow visitor in.
- Ask visitor to please re-schedule their visit until they are feeling better.
- Call nursing supervisor, (315) 777-6492, for assistance if needed.

### **If NO to all questions, and temperature less than 100.0°F:**

- Hand (1) facemask, if not wearing mask.
- Provide “Visitor Expectations” Handout.
- Explain that visitor needs to remain in identified visitation area during visit.
- Document screening.
- Visitor needs to “check out” at the screening table.

**Visitor Expectations**

*These guidelines are for the safety of you, the residents, and staff. They must be followed, or you will be asked to leave the facility.*

- Clean your hands frequently.
- Wear your mask properly (over nose and mouth) at all times.
- Stay in designated visitation area.
- Staff will help supervise you during visit and as you exit.
- Do not attempt to visit if you have any signs of illness.
- Social distance – please keep 6 feet away from others.
- Unless resident is vaccinated, no physical contact is allowed between residents and visitors.
- Please be courteous of visitation schedule to ensure others are able to visit their loved ones.

**Hand hygiene**

Hand hygiene is the number one way to prevent the spread of disease. Clean your hands frequently.

*At a minimum, clean hands:*

- When you enter or exit the facility.
- After using the restroom.
- After touching your face or wiping your nose.
- After touching your facemask.