



March 26, 2021

Greetings to All!

We hope you are all doing well, as we are here. Spring is around the corner and everyone is looking forward to getting outdoors.

*We are happy to let you know that IDPH made a few changes to their guidance now that vaccines are more widely available. Please note the current visit parameters below. Also, you may still take your loved one to their family home, but we ask you to exercise caution, to avoid large groups, and observe social distancing and masking in the community as much as possible.*

VISIT PARAMETERS for both INDOOR and OUTDOOR visits:

- Infection prevention is still paramount. Please practice hand hygiene, and wear face coverings during your visit.
- Outdoor visits are preferred, weather permitting, once it warms up a bit!
- Indoor visits can take place on the 4-seasons porch. Visitors may not enter other areas of the building at this time, in order to limit contact with other residents.
- Please call Brittany, Oakwood RSD (309-263-8484) or Rob, Linden RSD (309-263-8992) during the week to schedule your visit. Please do not come for an indoor OR outdoor visit unless you have scheduled it with the RSD. You will be asked screening questions when you call to set up each visit.
- In order to allow time for as many families as possible to visit, we will schedule in blocks of 30-60 minutes.
- Please limit the number of visitors to 3 or 4 at one time.
- All visitors must be screened just inside the door by our staff member when you arrive. (temperature taken, series of questions regarding symptoms/exposure).
- As part of the screening process, we need you to record information about ALL visitors, including name, address, phone and email if you have one.
- Please do not visit if you have any symptoms or recent exposure to COVID-19.

Updated IDPH guidance is below regarding physical distancing during indoor/outdoor visits:

- CMS and CDC continue to recommend facilities, residents, and families adhere to the core principles of COVID-19 infection prevention, including physical distancing (maintaining at least 6 feet between people). This continues to be the safest way to prevent the spread of COVID-19, particularly if either party has not been fully vaccinated.
- However, we acknowledge the toll that separation and isolation have taken. We also acknowledge there is no substitute for physical contact, such as the warm embrace between a resident and their loved one. **Therefore, if the resident is fully vaccinated, they can**

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**choose to have close contact (including touch) with their visitor while wearing a well-fitting cloth face mask or face covering and performing hand-hygiene before and after.** Regardless, visitors should physically distance from other residents and staff in the facility. Visitation should be person-centered; and consider the residents' physical, mental, and psychosocial well-being, and support their quality of life.

Please continue to pray that residents and staff will stay healthy. Our COVID-19 infection prevention and screening protocols remain in place in our facilities. We look forward to and welcome your visits!

Sincerely,

*Crystal Streitmatter*

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