



March 12, 2021

Dear St Joseph Villa Residents and Families,

We are elated to share that the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) in collaboration with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) have updated their guidance for skilled nursing facility visits. In light of the high vaccination rate achieved by skilled nursing facility residents and staff, visits can now be accommodated both indoors and outdoors on a routine basis! Please avoid meal times when utilizing indoor visits unless your loved one requests your personal assistance during meals. This will allow us to accommodate proper distancing of individuals in the dining rooms.

When practicable, outdoor visits continue to be preferred even when the resident and visitor are both fully vaccinated. Outdoor visits generally pose a lower risk of transmission due to increased space and airflow. We will continue to facilitate accessible and safe outdoor visits (weather permitting) utilizing appropriate infection control and screening of all visitors prior to the visit.

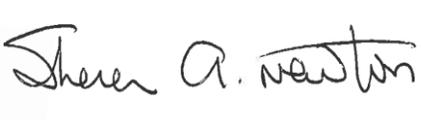
Effective Monday, March 15th, we will offer indoor visits seven days a week from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. for all residents. Due to capacity limitations, scheduled visits are preferred with up to two visitors per resident. For a special accommodation, contact facility management. Please use the main entrance as we are required to screen all visitors prior to entry. We respectfully request that all visitors proceed directly to the designated visit area.

While visiting, please adhere to the core principles of infection control: maintain at least 6 feet of distance between individuals, wear a well-fitted mask, and perform frequent hand hygiene. If a fully vaccinated resident wishes to have close contact with their loved one (including touch) during a visit, this is appropriate with both parties wearing a mask and performing hand hygiene before and after. However, visitors should continue to physically distance from other residents and staff in the facility.

Fully vaccinated residents are welcome to leave the facility for outings without the need for quarantine upon return. We ask that you schedule outings in advance so we can prepare your loved one and ensure that they have any necessary medications. Please be advised that the newly released guidance is subject to change based on community positivity rates or virus findings.

We wish to extend our deepest gratitude for your trust and support during this challenging year. Thankfully, we feel we are able to gradually return to our longstanding tradition of welcoming visitors at any time of day or night. We appreciate your cooperation with ongoing infection control practices as vaccination efforts continue for the general public.

With much love and respect,

			
Gabe Grossberg President and CEO	Kathy Gilmore Senior Vice President	Michele Blunt Vice President/Clinical Svcs	Sherer Newton Director/Clinical Svcs