



BRICKSTONE | FOUNDATION | HOME | MEADOWS

March 5, 2021

Dear St. John's Residents and Family Members,

It has been over a week since New York State Department of Health's release of updated guidelines regarding the visitation changes impacting skilled nursing facilities. As we mentioned previously, full visitation, in a manner that families may be recalling from the period of time pre-pandemic—when visitors were able to fully access the facility and interact with loved ones without screening or pre-entrance requirements—was not restored in this recent iteration; however, we have been diligently making preparations to support the return of **In Person Visits** at St. John's Home according to the current guidelines. A review of information already shared, as well as information regarding our new on-site COVID-19 testing clinics for visitors, is outlined below.

In Person Visit Status

- The guideline that stipulates a facility must be free of a positive COVID-19 case in a resident or staff member for 14 days before a facility can open for indoor, **In Person Visits** is still in effect. Under this guideline, and barring no new positive cases of COVID-19 in the interim period, St. John's Home will be eligible for this type of visitation on Monday, March 15. (Strict social distancing and the donning of personal protection equipment by visitors are still required during this type of visit.)
- To be eligible for indoor, **In Person Visits**, visitors will be required to produce evidence of a negative COVID-19 test within 7 days of the visit if the Center for Medicaid Services data listing for Monroe County rate of infection is below 5% and within 72 hours if the rate of infection is between 5 and 10%. (St. John's will provide information on the current rate of infection in effect on our COVID-19 Updates [web page](#). A listing of open testing sites available to Monroe County community members can be found [here](#). Also, St. John's Home will begin offering open testing clinics for visitors next week. See details listed below under **Visitor Testing Clinics**.)
- Under the updated guidelines, the definition for **Compassionate Care Visit** eligibility has been expanded; however, it remains highly individualized. St. John's Home is reviewing the expanded definition and evaluating qualification eligibility for each resident. The primary contact of each resident who qualifies for a **Compassionate Care Visit** will be notified directly to schedule this type of visit and to discuss requirements for the visit (including the COVID-19 testing requirement noted above).
- **Window Visits**, which do not require proof of a negative COVID-19 test, can be selected via the current [website sign up](#) process on the designated day for their loved one's neighborhood, will continue to be available to families. As before, scheduled **Window Visits** can convert to an **In Person Visit** if St. John's meets the 14-day requirement noted and the visitor meets the COVID-testing requirement also noted. However, only one type of visit is allowed per family per week.
- Receipt of the COVID-19 vaccination does not preclude a visitor from having to meet the testing requirements noted above.
- Any questions regarding the updated visitation guidelines can be submitted by email to updates@stjohnsliving.org.

Visitor Testing Clinics

Two weekly clinics for visitor COVID-19 screening, which meets the **In Person Visit** requirement noted above, will begin operation at St. John's Home on March 9 and 10 from 9:00 – 11:00 a.m. in the Hastings Lobby at 150 Highland Avenue. Clinics will also be held at the same time and location every Tuesday and Wednesday thereafter. If you would like to sign up for a screening, please call 585-760-1544. Those participating in the weekly clinics will receive documented proof of screening that verifies the results for the 7-day requirement.

Thank you for your continued patience as we navigate these ever-changing requirements for reopening nursing home visitation.

Sincerely,

President and CEO

Embrace Living

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