



6/24/2021

Dear Residents, Family Members and Friends,

On Friday June 17TH The Director of Health signed to rescind the Seventh Amended Order to Permit Access to Ohio's Nursing Homes. While these orders have been rescinded, the Health Care Center at Brethren Care Village is still held to the standards of CMS and CDC. We are doing everything in our power to ensure that we keep our residents, our staff, and their families, safe from this virus. With that being said, the following guidelines are now in place and will start Monday June 28, 2021:

- If you or your loved one resides in a private room at the Health Care Center, and you are visiting between the hours of 8:00am and 4:30pm Monday through Friday, you no longer need to schedule your visitation. Outside of these hours and on the weekends will need to be scheduled to ensure proper assistance from staff. Please call 419-289-1585 ext. 220 Monday through Friday 8:00am-3:30pm to schedule visitation.
- If you or your loved one resides in a semi- private room at the Health Care Center and utilize our "Family Visitation Rooms" you must schedule your appointment to ensure available space. These visits will be scheduled for a one-hour duration. If the weather is conducive for outside visits, you may schedule an outdoor visit with no time limitations. In the event of inclement weather outdoor visits will be cancelled and all efforts will be made to move visits indoors but can not be guaranteed.
- In room compassionate care visits will continue with no change.

Several core principles of COVID-19 Infection prevention must be maintained:

- All visitors, whether for indoor or outdoor visitation, **must sign in/out** and complete the screening process at one of the entrance kiosks. Denial of entry will occur for anyone that shows signs or symptoms or those who have had close contact with someone with COVID-19 in the prior 14 days, regardless of the visitor's vaccination status.
- Visitors under the age of 2, or persons who are unable to meet the mask requirements are discouraged from visiting at this time.
- Hand Hygiene will be performed at least before and after each visit. Alcohol based hand sanitizer is available at the kiosks and through out the facility.
- Visits need to occur in designated areas. Visitors should limit movement in the facility.
- A surgical mask, covering the mouth and nose, and social distancing of at least 6 feet between persons will occur during visitations unless the following are met:
 - The resident and all of their visitors are fully vaccinated, have been educated on the risks and are in the resident's private room or designated family visitation area, then the resident may choose to have close contact including touch and to not wear source control/mask.

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- Visitors are required to wear source control/surgical mask and physically distance from other healthcare personnel and other resident's that are not a part of their group at all other times while in the facility.
- The safest approach is for everyone to maintain physical distancing and to wear a mask. However, if the resident is fully vaccinated, they can choose to have close contact with their unvaccinated visitors while both continue to wear well-fitting source control/mask.
- Pets are welcome with the following restrictions: dogs must always be on a leash or harness, cats should be brought in a carrier and held throughout the visit. Copies of vaccination records should be brought to the receptionist upon initial visit. If an accident occurs while visiting, visitors are responsible for cleanup. If at any time the pet shows aggression or concern for resident/staff safety, the pet must be removed immediately. Future visitation for this pet will be prohibited.

If at any time these core principles are not followed, Brethren Care Village has the right to immediately end visitation and restrict future visits in order to protect its residents and staff.

In addition to all other visitation requirements, the following shall apply to all indoor visitations:

- Indoor visitation will be allowed except for a few circumstances when visitation shall be limited due to a high risk of COVID-19 transmission. Indoor visitation will be limited for:
 - Unvaccinated residents, if the nursing home's COVID-19 county positivity rate is greater than 10% and less than 70% of residents in the facility are fully vaccinated.
 - Residents with confirmed COVID-19 infection, whether vaccinated or unvaccinated until they have met the criteria to discontinue Transmission Based Precautions; or
 - Residents in quarantine, whether vaccinated or unvaccinated, until they have met criteria for release from quarantine.
- Indoor visitation during an outbreak:
 - When a new case of COVID-19 among residents or staff is identified, all visitations will be suspended until one full round of outbreak testing has been concluded for residents and staff. Visitation can resume based on the following criteria:
 - If the round of outbreak resting reveals no additional COVID-19 cases in other areas of the facility, then visitation can resume for residents in areas/units with no COVID-19 cases. However, the facility should suspend visitation on the affected unit until the facility meets the criteria to discontinue outbreak testing.
 - If the first round of outbreak testing reveals one or more additional COVID-19 cases in other areas/units of the facility, then all visitations is suspended until the facility meets the criteria to discontinue outbreak testing.

We thank you for your continued patience and understanding during this difficult time while we navigate through this new territory. Please feel free to reach out with any questions 419-289-1585.

Sincerely,

 Carrie S. Harpster, LNHA

Carrie Harpster