

June 26, 2020

Dear Residents and Families,

While SUMMER is officially here, much of what we “know” of summer has a different look or feel during this time of COVID-19.

The weekly status for Samaritan Campus thankfully remains at zero known cases of positive COVID-19 for both residents and staff.

This week, we have received the initial phase of the State Infection Control Survey – a federal initiative to survey all nursing homes in the US by the end of July. We have completed the “off-site” section; providing copies of our policies, procedures, communications, lines lists, etc. We will have an onsite visit from one of the State surveyors sometime soon. Their only focus will be to ensure that our infection control process and PPE usage is where it should be.

This morning I heard a researcher speak about the **3 “W’s”** to help combat the rising numbers across the country. I thought it was a great reminder to help minimize the spread.

WASH your hands

WEAR a mask

WATCH how close you stand to someone else.

At this time, we remain under the DHS and DMS guidelines that restrict visitation for long term care facilities. However – we are taking some additional steps (staying within the guidelines) to encourage and allow for family connections.

Starting July 6th, we will be having PATIO VISITS on the back patio at Samaritan. Here are steps that we will be following to encourage the social aspect and yet work to remain safe.

- Back Campus patio visits will begin 7/6/2020. Area is used to ensure social distancing with the resident on the inside of the patio and family/visitor on the outside area of the patio.
 - We will have up to 4 residents at a time along with staff accompaniment (presence is to assist in maintaining social distancing. Nursing staff is to assist residents to and from the area).
 - Initially, to best accommodate all residents and families, visits will be limited to one time per week (as schedules allow).
 - Each resident visit will be limited to no more than 2 people per visit.
 - **Families/Guests are able to call the front desk (262-335-4500) between 9:00 AM and 5:30 PM Monday through Friday and 10:00 AM and 2:00 PM Saturday and Sunday. Families MUST identify who will be attending and provide phone numbers of each individual (to ensure contact tracing if necessary.)**
 - Designated times will be established to ensure staff availability (avoiding meal times and busy care times when possible)

- **Times will initially be Monday-Friday from 10-11:30 (Time slots of 10:15-10:45 and 11:00-11:30) and 3:00 – 4:15 PM (Time slots of 3-3:30 and 3:45-4:15)**
- The patio will provide an outside setting. Staff will be responsible for providing assistance with transporting and monitoring for sun exposure, temperature changes, hydration, etc. of each resident.
- Staff and clinical discretion may deem that a patio visit is not an appropriate measure for the resident (ex. illness, behavioral challenges, weather) this will be communicated to the family prior to the scheduled visit when possible). This will be communicated to the family by the Social Worker.
- **Outside entertainment**
 - Efforts will be made to have outside entertainment (music, games, etc.) for residents – while allowing for social distancing and safety
 - Bus and rickshaw rides for a limited number of residents are available. The vehicles will be manned by staff (volunteers will be added at a later date).
 - Residents will stay on/in the vehicle – socially distanced from other riders and/or staff
 - Resident temperatures will be taken upon return into the building from a bus or rickshaw ride.

Virtual visits will continue. Please use **Sign Up Genius**

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60b0f44acaa22a3fc1-messenger> or contact Carrie Jeffords at 262-335-4533 to set up a time to “see” and visit your family member through technology. Please be considerate of the number of times that you are wanting to do these. We are working hard to add these in to our enhanced programming schedule!

We will have another round of FAMILY PARADES! These were fun for both residents and families! Many of you outdid yourself with the signs and balloons and messages! Here are the dates:

July 8th - RCAC and CBRF Families @5:30pm

July 15 – 2nd and 4th floor families @6:00pm

July 22 – 3rd floor families @3:30pm

We have two additional communication venues that have been set up. We have a **GENERAL SAMARITAN EMAIL** which is: samaritan@co.washington.wi.us. PLEASE DO NOT USE THIS FOR AN EMERGENCY. Please use this email address for messages that you may want to have go to a particular department – or for a general comment or question. This email will be monitored Monday through Friday.

Additionally, we have a **CAMPUS COMMUNICATION LINE** 262-335-4599. This line will give an update of things that are happening on our campus such as events, visitor guidelines, COVID-19 updates, etc.. This will be a recorded message and can be accessed by the caller. This number does not allow for any messages to be left or to speak to anyone directly but it will provide information quickly.

We look forward to moving into this next phase of opening. We recognize that it is not to the extent that some may like but we are moving forward in a phased and safe manner. We do not want to have positive cases which would cause us to revisit the phased steps. We continue to recognize that this is a very difficult and fluid time. We appreciate your calls, ideas, confidence and trust.

We look forward to seeing you at the next **parades** and upcoming **Patio visits!**

Mari Beth Borek

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Campus Administrator