

March 18, 2021

To our Beatitudes Residents and Families:

Good afternoon!

As we have discovered over the past year there is nothing more constant than change. We are all so thankful that you have all been so understanding through the many changes that have occurred.

The Health Care Center is considered to be in “Outbreak” status right now. Last Friday, a direct care worker tested positive for COVID-19, which puts the Health Care Center in “Outbreak” status. As you know, this situation changes our visitation guidelines. Using the recommendations and guidance from the Arizona Department of Health Services (DHS), the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), we have a few new updates to share with you.

Visitation in the Health Care Center During Outbreak Status

Visitation in areas of the Health Care Center not affected by COVID-19 may be able to occur if 1) the outbreak is confined to one area and 2) there is evidence that no cases are detected through COVID-19 testing outside the affected area.

Right now, at the campus, the 2nd floor (Early Memory Support) and 3rd floor (Sierra Springs) have not been shown to have COVID-19 through testing, so indoor visitation can still occur on those floors. See visitation guidelines listed in the letter.

The fourth floor, Vermilion Cliffs (Advanced Memory Support) is designated as being in Outbreak status through Friday, March 26. Visitation will be suspended, except for Compassionate Care Visits. Please read the guidelines in this letter.

Visitation in the Health Care Center Guidance

Outdoor Visitation

Outdoor visitation is the preferred method of visitation, even if both individuals have been vaccinated. All screening protocols (including temperature checks, symptom screening and exposure questions) are required prior to visitation. Well-fitting masks and hand hygiene protocols will be required.

Outdoor visitation will not require testing for COVID-19, but we will continue to screen visitors and continue to wear masks and socially distance from other residents and staff.

If your loved one has been fully vaccinated, they can choose whether they want to touch or be touched by their visitor. Both individuals must always wear well-fitting masks. It's important that hand hygiene be practiced before and after the visit.

In case of inclement weather, the "outdoor" visitation will take place "indoors" in the Health Care Center lobby or other designated area.

Indoor Visitation

All screening protocols (including temperature checks, symptom screening and exposure questions) are required prior to visitation. Well-fitting masks and hand hygiene protocols will be required.

All visitors will enter the elevator and proceed directly to their loved one's room. After your visit, you will go directly to the elevator. For safety, we cannot allow visitors to linger in the hallways or walk throughout the hallways.

You must sign into the visitor log. This is for contact tracing purposes.

Compassionate Care visits will be allowed at all times, regardless of vaccination status, Maricopa County's positivity rate or whether the Health Care Center has an outbreak.

Designated Essential Visitor (DEV). DEV visits will be allowed in the resident's room if: 1) the resident resides in a private room or 2) the resident is unable to leave their room for any medical reason. If a resident cannot leave their room, we will ensure that the roommate leave the room to allow for visitation. We suggest visits no longer than 60 minutes.

If your loved one has been fully vaccinated, they can choose whether they want to touch or be touched by their visitor.

All visitors will physically distance themselves from other residents and staff (6-feet of distance).

We will allow no more than two visitors at one time per floor. Visitation is by appointment only. Right now, we can only allow five visitors per day per floor.

All visitors must schedule their visit. Please contact Sarah Ramias, social worker, to schedule (sramias@beatitudescampus.org or 602-433-6161).

Other indoor visitors (not DEVs). Indoor visitors who are not Designated Essential Visitors (friends, family members) may visit for 30 minutes. The visits will be in the resident's room if the resident is in a private room or in another pre-planned location.

Indoor Visitation Exceptions: Residents with confirmed COVID-19 may not have visitors until they have met the criteria to discontinue transmission-based precautions. Residents in quarantine may not have visitors until they have met the criteria for release from quarantine. These restrictions apply whether the resident is vaccinated or not vaccinated.

Residents with confirmed COVID-19 until they have met the criteria to discontinue Transmission Based Precautions, or residents in Quarantine until they have met the criteria for release from quarantine. The above is whether vaccinated or unvaccinated.

Thank you again for your patience and understanding in this ever evolving and changing guidance. We are anxious for you to be reconnected with your loved ones but want to assure we do it in the safest manner.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to us. Thank you all again for being supportive. It truly takes a village, and we are thankful to have you all as part of our village here at Beatitudes.

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