

May 11, 2021

To Our Residents and Family Members

Good Evening,

We are reaching out to inform you that we have had a staff member become symptomatic and test positive for COVID-19. This individual is part of the dining services team and while not having extended periods of time with the residents the cumulative time requires that we begin the use of full PPE, Social Distancing on the units and testing of the residents and staff. The first round of testing has occurred and we are pleased to announce we have no positive results. We will test both residents and staff again on Thursday and if we have all negative results and nobody is presenting with any signs or symptoms of COVID-19; outside visitation can resume. For the time being we are technically in a preventative lockdown mode and will be under a 14 day window of testing until we can officially be outbreak free.

We would also like to share new guidance that has been released from Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) in regard to visitation, dining, mask wearing and social distancing for fully vaccinated individuals. We are waiting on the final guidance from our local Department of Health and Human Services.

Below is a summary of the guidance for dining, activities, and visitation. As we all know these are all subject to change depending on community spread and state benchmarks that we monitor.

- Fully vaccinated residents may resume dining activities without the wearing of face masks or social distancing.
- Visitations and personal contact among residents and visitors who are fully vaccinated can occur in the resident's room if the room is private and in a visitation area inside or outside the building without having to be socially distanced.
- Dining at the same table with other fully vaccinated residents is allowed without masks or social distancing.
- We will have a special dining area for those residents who are unvaccinated or for those who have either not received the second dose or who are not past the 14 day from the second dose.
- Activities will continue with the same rules as dining – fully vaccinated residents can sit together without masking. A special activity area will be set up for unvaccinated individuals.
- If vaccinated and unvaccinated residents are together, we will require the wearing of masks and we will be socially distanced.

We have new guidelines for COVID-19 testing requirements. Below is a summary of the guidelines.

- For fully vaccinated staff who are asymptomatic, regular COVID-19 testing will not be required. If a fully vaccinated staff member has close contact with an individual who is positive for COVID-19 or is symptomatic, they would be immediately tested and then tested again five-seven days after exposure.
- Unvaccinated staff will follow the testing guidelines that are based on community spread.
- Testing guidelines for all staff in the wake of a COVID-19 outbreak regardless of vaccination status will remain unchanged. All will follow testing protocol.

We will continue to encourage and educate the staff who have not yet been vaccinated on the importance of receiving the vaccine. We also take religious and medical contraindications into play. We are excited for some of the stringent restrictions to be lifted, but we also want to ensure, to the best of our ability, to keep our residents and staff safe and well.

We will keep you updated when the final guidance from the Arizona Department of Public Health when it is released.

If you have any other family members who are interested in being on our mailing list, please send me their email address and we can add them. My contact information is tborton@beatitudescampus.org.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to reach out to us. Thank you all for your continued support, trust and care you have shown us all. It truly takes a village, and we are thankful to have you all as part of our village here at Beatitudes.

We are definitely Beatitudes Strong!

Blessings to all!

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