

WEEKLY UPDATE

3/11/2021

Dear Residents and Families/Representatives,

Please accept this letter as our weekly update regarding the status of COVID-19 in our facility. Since the onset of this virus, we have had 35 residents and 32 staff members test positive for COVID-19. Fairfield has completed 35 weeks of weekly staff testing and we are happy to report that no employees tested positive for COVID-19 during this round. Residents will no longer be weekly tested unless the facility is in outbreak status or exhibiting signs and symptoms of COVID-19. It has been 34 days since the facilities last COVID-19 positive result. As of March 1, 2021, the Amended Nursing Homes Matter Order for Maryland now follows the Center for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) guidance on nursing home visitation regarding COVID-19. Fairfield's indoor visitation plan has been updated and implemented according to this guidance.

As always, we are working hard to keep everyone in our community safe and we will continue to practice the enhanced safety precautions that are known to prevent the spread of COVID-19, such as only essential personnel are allowed inside the facility and we screen them for signs and symptoms of illness prior to entering. Our residents are continually monitored and staff is using PPE as recommended by the CDC. Staff is frequently reminded and encouraged to practice social distancing and to use hand sanitizer and frequently wash their hands when they are in the facility and out in the community. We ask them not to report to work if they have symptoms of illness.

Please continue to check our website for weekly updates as well as notification of new cases. As always, we will notify you if we receive confirmation of a new positive case in our facility and we will reach out to you individually if your loved one is displaying symptoms of COVID-19 or tests positive for COVID-19.

If you have any questions or concerns please contact us directly at (410) 923-6820.

Sincerely,

Charles Woodberry, MS., LNHA

Charles Woodberry
Administrator

WEEKLY UPDATE

3/18/2021

Dear Residents and Families/Representatives,

Please accept this letter as our weekly update regarding the status of COVID-19 in our facility. Since the onset of this virus, we have had 35 residents and 32 staff members test positive for COVID-19. Fairfield has completed monthly testing of staff and we are happy to report that no employees tested positive for COVID-19 during this round. Residents will no longer be weekly tested unless the facility is in outbreak status or exhibiting signs and symptoms of COVID-19. It has been 42 days since the facilities last COVID-19 positive result. Fairfield's indoor visitation plan has been updated and implemented according to the Amended Nursing Homes Matter Order for Maryland, which now follows the Center for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) guidance on nursing home visitation regarding COVID-19.

Core Principles of COVID-19 Infection Prevention

- 1) The facility will ensure core principles of COVID-19 infection preventions to include:
 - a) Screening of all visitors when entering the facility for signs and symptoms of COVID-19 to include temperature checks, questions about and observations of signs and symptoms. Any visitor with signs or symptoms of COVID-19 or those who have had close contact with someone with COVID-19 infection in the past 14 days will be denied entry to the facility regardless of the visitor's vaccination status.
 - b) Hand hygiene (use of alcohol-based hand rub on entry and throughout visit when appropriate)
 - c) Face coverings or mask that covers the mouth and nose
 - d) Social distancing at all times during the visit of at least six feet apart
 - e) Instructional signage throughout the facility and visitor education on COVID-19 signs and symptoms, infection control precautions, use of face coverings/mask, specific entry and exits, routes to take during visitation, and hand hygiene
 - f) Cleaning and disinfecting high frequency touched surfaces and designated visitation area after each visit
 - g) Facility staff use of appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)
 - h) Facility must have designated areas for cohorting residents (quarantine, step-down, and COVID unit)
 - i) Resident and staff testing per CMS regulation
- 2) The facility will adhere to the above core principles at all times.
- 3) The facility will conduct visitation that is person-centered and considers resident's physical, mental, and psychosocial well-being and quality of life.
- 4) The facility may use physical barriers such as, Plexiglas dividers or curtains to reduce the risk of transmission during visitation.
- 5) The facility will conduct visitation that allows residents to privacy during visits.
- 6) **The facility will not allow visitors to enter who are unable to adhere to the core principles of COVID-19 infection prevention or will be asked to leave.**
- 7) Facility staff will provide each visitor with the *COVID-19 Visitor Waiver and Release* for execution and will keep a copy in the resident's file. Upon request, Facility staff will provide a copy of the executed release to the visitor.

Indoor Visitation

- 1) The facility will allow indoor visitation for all residents regardless of their vaccination status, except for the following circumstances that should limit visitation due to the high risk of COVID-19 transmission.
 - a) 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.
 - b) 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.
- 2) The facility will ensure the staff, residents, and visitors adhere to the core principles of COVID-19 infection, including physical distancing of at least 6 feet between individuals.
- 3) The facility will allow residents that are fully vaccinated if they choose to have close contact including touch with their visitor while wearing a well-fitting face mask and performing hand-hygiene before and after.
- 4) The facility will ensure that visitors physically distance from other residents and staff in the facility.

Indoor Visitation During and Outbreak

- 1) The facility may still have indoor visitation even during an outbreak but there is evidence that the transmission of COVID-19 is contained to a single area of the facility.
- 2) The facility will immediately begin outbreak testing and suspend all visitation except that required under federal disability rights law when a new case of COVID-19 among residents or staff is identified. After at least one round of facility-wide testing is completed visitation may resume based on the following:
 - a) If the first round of outbreak testing reveals no additional COVID-19 cases in other areas of the facility then visitation may resume for residents in areas with no COVID-19 cases. The facility will continue to suspend visitation on the affected unit until the facility meets the criteria to discontinue outbreak testing.
 - b) If the first round of outbreak testing reveals one or more additional COVID-19 cases in vaccinated or unvaccinated individuals in other areas or units of the facility, the facility will suspend visitation for all resident until the facility meets the criteria to discontinue outbreak testing.

As always, we are working hard to keep everyone in our community safe and we will continue to practice the enhanced safety precautions that are known to prevent the spread of COVID-19, such as only essential personnel are allowed inside the facility and we screen them for signs and symptoms of illness prior to entering. Our residents are continually monitored and staff is using PPE as recommended by the CDC. Staff is frequently reminded and encouraged to practice social distancing and to use hand sanitizer and frequently wash their hands when they are in the facility and out in the community. We ask them not to report to work if they have symptoms of illness.

Please continue to check our website for weekly updates as well as notification of new cases. As always, we will notify you if we receive confirmation of a new positive case in our facility and we will reach out to you individually if your loved one is displaying symptoms of COVID-19 or tests positive for COVID-19.

If you have any questions or concerns please contact us directly at (410) 923-6820.

Sincerely,

Charles Woodberry, MS., LNHA

Charles Woodberry
Administrator

WEEKLY UPDATE

3/26/2021

Dear Residents and Families/Representatives,

Please accept this letter as our weekly update regarding the status of COVID-19 in our facility. Since the onset of this virus, we have had 35 residents and 32 staff members test positive for COVID-19. Fairfield has completed monthly testing of staff and we are happy to report that no employees tested positive for COVID-19 during this round. Residents will no longer be weekly tested unless the facility is in outbreak status or exhibiting signs and symptoms of COVID-19. It has been 50 days since the facilities last COVID-19 positive result. Fairfield has reopened our therapy gyms after extensive education and training. There have been no issues. In the event concerns arise with a positive therapist we will close the gym again for 14 days. Fairfield's anticipated start date for communal dining is March 29th, 2021. Fairfield's indoor visitation plan has been updated and implemented according to the Amended Nursing Homes Matter Order for Maryland, which now follows the Center for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) guidance on nursing home visitation regarding COVID-19.

Core Principles of COVID-19 Infection Prevention

- 1) The facility will ensure core principles of COVID-19 infection preventions to include:
 - a) Screening of all visitors when entering the facility for signs and symptoms of COVID-19 to include temperature checks, questions about and observations of signs and symptoms. Any visitor with signs or symptoms of COVID-19 or those who have had close contact with someone with COVID-19 infection in the past 14 days will be denied entry to the facility regardless of the visitor's vaccination status.
 - b) Hand hygiene (use of alcohol-based hand rub on entry and throughout visit when appropriate)
 - c) Face coverings or mask that covers the mouth and nose
 - d) Social distancing at all times during the visit of at least six feet apart
 - e) Instructional signage throughout the facility and visitor education on COVID-19 signs and symptoms, infection control precautions, use of face coverings/mask, specific entry and exits, routes to take during visitation, and hand hygiene
 - f) Cleaning and disinfecting high frequency touched surfaces and designated visitation area after each visit
 - g) Facility staff use of appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)
 - h) Facility must have designated areas for cohorting residents (quarantine, step-down, and COVID unit)
 - i) Resident and staff testing per CMS regulation
- 2) The facility will adhere to the above core principles at all times.
- 3) The facility will conduct visitation that is person-centered and considers resident's physical, mental, and psychosocial well-being and quality of life.
- 4) The facility may use physical barriers such as, Plexiglas dividers or curtains to reduce the risk of transmission during visitation.
- 5) The facility will conduct visitation that allows residents to privacy during visits.
- 6) **The facility will not allow visitors to enter who are unable to adhere to the core principles of COVID-19 infection prevention or will be asked to leave.**
- 7) Facility staff will provide each visitor with the *COVID-19 Visitor Waiver and Release* for execution and will keep a copy in the resident's file. Upon request, Facility staff will provide a copy of the executed release to the visitor.

Indoor Visitation

- 1) The facility will allow indoor visitation for all residents regardless of their vaccination status, except for the following circumstances that should limit visitation due to the high risk of COVID-19 transmission.
 - a) 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.
 - b) 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.
- 2) The facility will ensure the staff, residents, and visitors adhere to the core principles of COVID-19 infection, including physical distancing of at least 6 feet between individuals.
- 3) The facility will allow residents that are fully vaccinated if they choose to have close contact including touch with their visitor while wearing a well-fitting face mask and performing hand-hygiene before and after.
- 4) The facility will ensure that visitors physically distance from other residents and staff in the facility.

Indoor Visitation During and Outbreak

- 1) The facility may still have indoor visitation even during an outbreak but there is evidence that the transmission of COVID-19 is contained to a single area of the facility.
- 2) The facility will immediately begin outbreak testing and suspend all visitation except that required under federal disability rights law when a new case of COVID-19 among residents or staff is identified. After at least one round of facility-wide testing is completed visitation may resume based on the following:
 - a) If the first round of outbreak testing reveals no additional COVID-19 cases in other areas of the facility then visitation may resume for residents in areas with no COVID-19 cases. The facility will continue to suspend visitation on the affected unit until the facility meets the criteria to discontinue outbreak testing.
 - b) If the first round of outbreak testing reveals one or more additional COVID-19 cases in vaccinated or unvaccinated individuals in other areas or units of the facility, the facility will suspend visitation for all resident until the facility meets the criteria to discontinue outbreak testing.

As always, we are working hard to keep everyone in our community safe and we will continue to practice the enhanced safety precautions that are known to prevent the spread of COVID-19, such as only essential personnel are allowed inside the facility and we screen them for signs and symptoms of illness prior to entering. Our residents are continually monitored and staff is using PPE as recommended by the CDC. Staff is frequently reminded and encouraged to practice social distancing and to use hand sanitizer and frequently wash their hands when they are in the facility and out in the community. We ask them not to report to work if they have symptoms of illness.

Please continue to check our website for weekly updates as well as notification of new cases. As always, we will notify you if we receive confirmation of a new positive case in our facility and we will reach out to you individually if your loved one is displaying symptoms of COVID-19 or tests positive for COVID-19.

If you have any questions or concerns please contact us directly at (410) 923-6820.

Sincerely,

Charles Woodberry, MS., LNHA

Charles Woodberry
Administrator

WEEKLY UPDATE

3/4/2021

Dear Residents and Families/Representatives,

Please accept this letter as our weekly update regarding the status of COVID-19 in our facility. Since the onset of this virus, we have had 35 residents and 32 staff members test positive for COVID-19. Fairfield has completed 34 weeks of weekly staff testing and we are happy to report that no employees tested positive for COVID-19 during this round. We have completed our 18th round of testing all the residents in the facility and we are happy to report that no residents tested positive for COVID-19. All test results for employee's and residents for the past 28 days have been negative. Fairfield's indoor visitation plan has been implemented for 2 week. The indoor visitation guidelines are as follows:

- a) **Visitors will be required to have a negative COVID-19 test within 72 hours of their visit.**
- b) The facility may not have any new onset of COVID-19 cases in the last 14 days and cannot be conducting outbreak testing.
- c) The facility will ensure that visitors adhere to core principles to include children.
- d) The facility will limit the number of visitors per resident and the number of visitors allowed in the facility at one time based on the size of the facility.
- e) The facility will schedule visits with time limits to allow all residents to receive visitors.
- f) The facility will limit movement of visitors; to include direct routes to designated visitation area.
- g) The facility will not conduct visitation in shared rooms unless the resident cannot leave the room due to health status. In that event the facility will ensure adherence to core principles of COVID-19 infection prevention.
- h) The facility will monitor their county positivity rate as additional information to determine indoor visitation. The facilities that are in low (<5%) and medium (5%-10%) should conduct visitation according to the core principles of COVID-19 infection prevention and facility policies beyond compassionate care visits. Those facilities that are in high (>10%) should only conduct for compassionate care situations according to the core principles of COVID-19 infection prevention and facility policies.
- i) The facility may monitor other factors that increase COVID-19 risk levels to include: rates of COVID-19 like illnesses, visits to the emergency department, or positivity rate of a county adjacent to the county where the nursing home is located.

We are committed to eliminating this virus from our facility, and as we previously reported, we will continue to implement and practice enhanced safety precautions recommended by our federal, state and local health officials, such as, only allowing essential personnel inside the facility, performing regular screenings for signs and symptoms of illness prior to entering the building, continually monitoring residents, performing regular deep cleanings, using PPE as recommended by the CDC, providing individual activities as opposed to group activities, implementing isolation protocols as required, and reminding and encouraging staff to practice social distancing and to use hand sanitizer and frequently wash their hands when they are in the facility and out in the community. We ask them not to report to work if they have symptoms of illness.

Please continue to check our website for weekly updates as well as notification of new cases. As always, we will notify you if we receive confirmation of a new positive case in our facility and we will reach out to you individually if your loved one is displaying symptoms of COVID-19 or tests positive for COVID-19.

If you have any questions or concerns please contact us directly at (410) 923-6820.

Sincerely,

Charles Woodberry, MS., LNHA

Charles Woodberry
Administrator

WEEKLY UPDATE

3/31/2021

Dear Residents and Families/Representatives,

Please accept this letter as our weekly update regarding the status of COVID-19 in our facility. Since the onset of this virus, we have had 35 residents and 32 staff members test positive for COVID-19. Fairfield will be returning to weekly testing of staff due to the counties positivity rate being above five percent. Residents will no longer be weekly tested unless the facility is in outbreak status or exhibiting signs and symptoms of COVID-19. It has been 55 days since the facilities last COVID-19 positive result. Fairfield has re-opened our therapy gyms after extensive education and training. There have been no issues. In the event concerns arise with a positive therapist we will close the gym again for 14 days. Fairfield has started the communal dining program this week and it is off to a great start. Fairfield's indoor visitation plan has been updated and implemented according to the Amended Nursing Homes Matter Order for Maryland, which now follows the Center for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) guidance on nursing home visitation regarding COVID-19.

Core Principles of COVID-19 Infection Prevention

- 1) The facility will ensure core principles of COVID-19 infection preventions to include:
 - a) Screening of all visitors when entering the facility for signs and symptoms of COVID-19 to include temperature checks, questions about and observations of signs and symptoms. Any visitor with signs or symptoms of COVID-19 or those who have had close contact with someone with COVID-19 infection in the past 14 days will be denied entry to the facility regardless of the visitor's vaccination status.
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 - f) Cleaning and disinfecting high frequency touched surfaces and designated visitation area after each visit
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Indoor Visitation

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 - b) 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.
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- 4) The facility will ensure that visitors physically distance from other residents and staff in the facility.

Indoor Visitation During and Outbreak

- 1) The facility may still have indoor visitation even during an outbreak but there is evidence that the transmission of COVID-19 is contained to a single area of the facility.
- 2) The facility will immediately begin outbreak testing and suspend all visitation except that required under federal disability rights law when a new case of COVID-19 among residents or staff is identified. After at least one round of facility-wide testing is completed visitation may resume based on the following:
 - a) If the first round of outbreak testing reveals no additional COVID-19 cases in other areas of the facility then visitation may resume for residents in areas with no COVID-19 cases. The facility will continue to suspend visitation on the affected unit until the facility meets the criteria to discontinue outbreak testing.
 - b) If the first round of outbreak testing reveals one or more additional COVID-19 cases in vaccinated or unvaccinated individuals in other areas or units of the facility, the facility will suspend visitation for all resident until the facility meets the criteria to discontinue outbreak testing.

As always, we are working hard to keep everyone in our community safe and we will continue to practice the enhanced safety precautions that are known to prevent the spread of COVID-19, such as only essential personnel are allowed inside the facility and we screen them for signs and symptoms of illness prior to entering. Our residents are continually monitored and staff is using PPE as recommended by the CDC. Staff is frequently reminded and encouraged to practice social distancing and to use hand sanitizer and frequently wash their hands when they are in the facility and out in the community. We ask them not to report to work if they have symptoms of illness.

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If you have any questions or concerns please contact us directly at (410) 923-6820.

Sincerely,

Charles Woodberry, MS., LNHA

Charles Woodberry
Administrator