

Because we care Update: February 9, 2022

We remain committed to keeping you informed of ongoing changes to the ministry directives. We will update our guidelines as we receive the directives from the CIUSSS that apply for private seniors' residences. As our teams manage the present challenges, we offer our sincere gratitude for their commitment, dedication and caring presence that are helping residents and families through this time. We invite you to take note of following updates and current guidelines:

Current Status

January was a challenging month for our residents and for our Family Caregivers. We are pleased to confirm that effective February 8th, all our Wings are out of isolation. We have one resident in room isolation until February 12th.

All employees are required to actively screen on entry, including completing a rapid test if they have any COVID-19 symptoms. We continue to be in communication with Public Health.

As soon as a resident shows any COVID symptoms, they are immediately tested. If a resident is exposed to an employee or visitor who tested positive, the resident is placed in isolation. Sandra Klinck, Director of Care, or Jill Guthrie, Nurse Supervisor, will communicate directly with mandataries in the event a resident tests positive, or if a wing is placed in isolation.

We are encouraging residents not to leave Grace Village unless it is for an urgent medical appointment. During this 5th wave of the pandemic, we encourage you to limit your own personal exposure and follow the directives from Public Health.

Please do not hesitate to contact Sandra Klinck at extension 5050 or sklinck@masscom.ca or Jill Guthrie at extension 5015, if you have any questions or concerns. They are the liaisons with Public Health.

Family Caregivers

Since January 31st, the Ministry of Health has mandated that Family Caregivers providing significant assistance will be the only individuals permitted to visit residents. In a 24-hour period, **four** Family Caregivers are now permitted to enter, **two** at a time. Please notify our Director of Care, Sandra Klinck, of the four designated Family Caregivers at sklinck@masscom.ca. Caregivers must be pre-approved and added to the Caregiver list to be able to visit their loved one.

All Family Caregivers must be adequately protected (double vaccinated) and visits are limited to residents' rooms. Exceptions apply for palliative care or other special circumstances.

Common areas may not be used for visits (living rooms, dining rooms, kitchenettes, etc.). As always, wearing a mask, social distance of 2 meters and hand hygiene are mandatory as soon as you enter the residence (even in the resident's room).

Meals

Arrangements can be made for you to have a special meal with your loved in our Bistro area. Please book in advance with Alexandra Zirkelbach at extension 5011. Numbers will be limited. Meals with residents in their room are not permitted at this time. Some exceptions may apply.

Recreation & Leisure

We wish to inform you that Danica Montgomery, Recreation & Leisure Coordinator, will be leaving her role after February 11 to pursue another opportunity in her field. She has faithfully served at Grace Village over the last 7 years and touched the lives of our residents, families, staff, volunteers, and community. We want to thank Danica for her many contributions to resident life and to establishing the Recreation & Leisure program.

Indoor Visiting Station

Located in the Wellness Center, our Indoor Visiting Station is a space that is separated by a sturdy Plexiglas and renovated to ensure proper ventilation. This area is thoroughly disinfected between each visit, allowing families to meet “face-to-face” without a mask in a safe environment. Visits must be scheduled at least 24 hours in advance by contacting Sandra Klinck at sklinck@masscom.ca. Visits can be held between 9am and 3pm from Monday to Friday.

Reminder: Virtual Visits

Although we must limit in-person visits, we still offer our Virtual Visits program. Our dedicated Recreation & Leisure staff can facilitate virtual visits between you and your loved ones. Virtual visits can be scheduled from 8 am to 4 pm, Monday to Friday. Please email at gvrecreation@masscom.ca, adding your name, the name of the resident you would like to contact, and your availabilities. We encourage you to use this tool to stay connected with your loved ones during these difficult times.

We thank everyone, as always, for taking all precautions seriously both inside and outside of Grace Village to help turn the tide of this current wave.

On behalf of the leadership team,



Karen Hornibrook
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Grace Village