



Policy Subject: Visitation Policy, Covid 19 Visitation Policy
Section: Covid Policies, Infection Control, visitation
Effective Date: April 2022
Date Revised: May 2022

POLICY:

To comply with Florida Statute “No Patient Left Alone Act” the following outlines Grand Oaks of Palm City, Jensen Beach, and Okeechobee Visitation Policy/Procedures. The Visitation Policy is designed to promote resident, visitor, and employee safety and compliance with applicable laws and regulations. The communities do not restrict visitation. **As per Florida Statute 408.823**, the Administrator is responsible for ensuring that staff adhere to the policies and procedures.

PROCEDURE:

- Individuals who enter the building will be screened for symptoms prior to entry. This includes employees, vendors, third party providers and visitors.
- Visitors are not compelled to submit proof of any vaccination or immunization and consensual physical contact between a resident and visitor is allowed.
- Visitation will be permitted after meeting screening requirements.
- Visitors are encouraged to wear a face mask and may be obtained upon request.
- There is no time limit for visitation.
- There is no limit on the number of visitors allowed per visit.
- Any expectations set forth in this policy will not exceed those which apply to the employees of our communities.
- Emergency Personnel are permitted entry without being screened prior to entry.

Employees, Essential Caregivers, New Residents, Visitors, Volunteers and Vendors are permitted entry only after passing screening requirements:

SCREENING PROCESS:

- Ensure hand sanitizer is available to them near the entry screening area.
- Utilize the fever screening thermometer upon arrival.
- If the individual is a first-time Visitor, offer them the Infection Control Training and Education Policies and Procedures and Infection Control Training Materials, hard copies are available at the front desk or from Nurse Manager/Supervisor.
- If the individual’s loved one is in Transition, they are required to wear a KN95 mask, gown and face shield. An N95 mask may be offered upon request.
- Provide the individual with any personal protective equipment (PPE) needed prior to permitting entry.
- If the loved one is in Monitoring, the individual is required to wear a KN95 mask. If they do not have one, it will be provided prior to permitting entry.
- All Visitors must immediately inform the communities if they develop COVID-19 symptoms or test positive for COVID-19 within ten (10) days of their visit.

In the event a Visitor violates the community’s policies and procedures as outlined, the community reserves the right to suspend in-person visitation from that specific Visitor.

ESSENTIAL CAREGIVERS:

A resident or their responsible party may designate anyone they choose as an Essential Caregiver. There are no limits on the number of identified Essential Caregivers per resident.

SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES:

In the event a Local, State or Federal agency might require restriction. The Essential Caregiver will be allowed in all the following circumstances unless the resident objects:

- End-of-life situations.
- A resident who was living with family before moving into the community is struggling with the change in environment and lack of in-person family support.
- The resident is making one or more major medical decisions.
- A resident is experiencing emotional distress.
- A resident is grieving the loss of a friend or family member who recently died.
- A resident needs cueing or encouragement to eat or drink which was previously provided by a family member or caregiver.
- A resident who used to talk and interact with others is seldomly speaking.

During these times, visits must be conducted in the resident's room/apartment.

CONCLUSION:

Visitors are an important part of our residents' lives, enriching their daily routines, and helping them enjoy our home-like atmosphere. If for any reason you have questions about our Community Access & Visitor Program, please do not hesitate to contact our Administrator.

As a reminder:

- There is no set visiting hours; however Outside doors are locked in the evening. To gain entry after hours, visitors should ring the doorbell located at the main entrance or call the main phone number.
- There is no limit to the length of a visit.
- There are no restrictions on the number of people allowed per visit.

We also ask Visitors to respect the following rules:

- Please do not enter other residents' apartments unless a resident specifically invites you in.
- Please do not linger throughout the community or at entrances or exits without the resident you are visiting.