



Implementation of Recommendations for Long-Term Care Visitation and Activities

The Minnesota Department of Health released new guidance for nursing homes and assisted livings to guide the options to expand visitation options. You can find the full guidance here:

<https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/hcp/lcvisit.pdf>.

- This new guidance will assist us in understanding when we can or cannot make changes to our visitation opportunities. This new guidance DOES NOT “reopen” the Lakewood Care Center or our assisted living facilities completely and all visits must still go through a specific process. It will take some time to implement due to these factors and can quickly change to more restricted visitation at any time. Until we can safely implement, please note the following visitation options we have made available to you. Attached is a detailed description and is also available on our website at: <https://www.lakewoodhealthsystem.com/document-library/page/2/?section=long-term-care-updates>
 - o Virtual visits
 - o Window visits
 - o Outdoor visits*
 - o Compassionate care visits*
 - o Essential caregiver visits*
- We are PROHIBITED from opening to more visitation and activities if we have had an exposure from COVID-19 in the past 28 days (whether from staff, resident or visitor).
- When we do open to more visitation and activities, we will be monitoring the risk factors (cases in our building and community) daily, including whether we have a positive case that requires us to move back to a more restrictive policy. This means we may have to move quickly back to more restrictions for visitors. We will notify families/representatives of our current visitation levels through our website at: <https://www.lakewoodhealthsystem.com/coronaviruscovid-19/long-term-care-updates/>
- The new guidance will be implemented differently by each long-term care facility depending on a variety of factors such as: Whether facility-wide testing has occurred; access to testing and protective equipment; whether the facility is in a community with a high level of community transmission; dates of past cases in our facility; and local hospital capacity. We will be carefully implementing a safe and measured process to allow greater visitation in our community based on our specific circumstances and review of risk factors. All visitation openings and restrictions are subject to change as circumstances change for our facility and community.

**Allowed visit types are subject to change based on active COVID cases and county case rates.*



The Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) has issued recommendations for long-term care visitation and activities during the COVID-19 pandemic.

LEVEL 1 visitation guidance

- Non-essential visitors are not allowed in the facility.
 - Exceptions will be made for essential caregivers (please call 218-894-8343), or for compassionate care visits (please call 218-894-8345) for more information.
- Outdoor visits are allowed (please call Activities Department at 218-894-8340 to arrange).
- Window visits are allowed (please call Activities Department at 218-894-8340 to arrange).

The most vulnerable populations live here. It is important that anyone entering this facility follow strict and current infection prevention and control practices, consistent with Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, and Minnesota Department of Health recommendations. The health and well-being of vulnerable adults and the staff who work in these facilities depends on you consistently following these practices.

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LEVEL 2 visitation guidance All visits MUST be scheduled.

Please call 218-894-8345 to schedule a visit.

- Visitors must always wear a mask or other face covering.
- Limit of visitors per resident at a time.
- Pets must be under the control of the visitor bringing them in. Petting or holding the pet is permitted.
- Visitors under age 12 must be supervised by the adults who bring them. They must also follow social distancing and face covering requirements.
- All visitors must maintain six feet social distance when possible.
- Visitors must go directly to the resident room or designated visiting area.
- Visitors must limit movement in the facility. Outdoor walks are acceptable if keeping a six feet distance. Pushing a wheelchair is acceptable if wearing facemasks and other appropriate personal protective equipment.
- Visitors should try to use the facility restroom as little as possible.
- A wave is the safest way to greet a resident. Holding hands and kissing are not allowed during visits. A quick hug from behind, to the side, or with faces turned away while wearing face coverings is lower risk.
- Compassionate care visits, essential caregiver visits, outdoor visits, window visits, and beauty services are also allowed.

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