

St. Francis Rehabilitation and Nursing Center
Bishop Bradley Senior Living Community
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April 9, 2021

Dear Residents, Family Members and Employees,

I am writing to give you an update on things here at St. Francis. We have had another good week this week. The residents continue to enjoy getting out of their rooms, enjoying some communal activities and communal dining. Some of the activities that have been offered this week include morning exercise, Bingo, Charades, and spiritual time with Maddy. We are also getting residents outdoors as often as we can with the nice weather upon us. The residents enjoyed their Easter Social and their own Easter baskets. This has been done under our guidelines of socially distancing and wearing masks. We continue in Phase 1 according to the public health guidelines.

Residents have been enjoying having visits with their families this past week. These visits are supervised, indoors and socially distanced. We will be setting up this week for outside visits as the weather is getting warmer and this is recommended by the public health department. We are also offering compassionate care visits to family members as well. We are offering testing for visitors with a rapid test and encouraging them to do this although they are not mandatory. You will want to arrive 15 minutes earlier than your scheduled appointment to receive your rapid test. This is a simple test that just involves swabbing the nose. We are happy to give you some more news about visits. Children may now visit over the age of two but must be able to wear personal protective equipment including a mask and face shield or goggles. Residents can have two visitors at time. We can also have some pet visits. Please check with Mindy as we need to have vaccinations on file and any dogs must be kept on a leash. If the resident has been fully vaccinated than you may have brief physical contact such as a hug or hand holding while wearing PPE (personal protective equipment). You must wash your hands before and after. Please refer to our website as the information on visits have been updated. Mindy will be back this Monday so you can call her at extension 330 to set up a visit. You will be required to answer some prescreening questions ahead of time and again at the time of the visit. We are so happy to be offering this to you all. Please continue to reach out to Tasha at ext. 313 to set up electronic or window visits as well.

Beginning in April we will begin testing our employees once monthly. We may need to move back to weekly employee testing if the positivity rate continues to go up in our community. We continue to follow the guidelines for NH Public Health Department and Catholic Charities New Hampshire. Employees who have not been vaccinated continue to wear the N95 mask and face shield or goggles. Employees who have had their vaccines can wear a surgical mask and face shield or goggles. All employees wear full personal protective equipment including the N95 mask when they are working with residents on the quarantine rooms.

We are working with Public Health and our pharmacy to provide the vaccine to residents and employees here in our building. We are holding a clinic with our pharmacy this afternoon.

We also wanted to make you aware of our Face Book page. You can look up St. Francis Rehabilitation and Nursing Center on Face book. We would appreciate you visiting this page regularly for information and posts of what is happening. We intend to use this page more often moving forward.

I also want to remind you that we are prohibiting any non-essential items to come in to the residents as we know that the virus can live on objects for a short period of time and do not want to take the chance that it could be spread in this way. All laundry will be done by our laundry staff here. If there is an essential item that you would like to bring for your loved one it needs to be in a sealed container that we can disinfect and leave in our entry way for a period of time before bringing in the facility. We are accepting floral deliveries. We will be cleaning and wiping down the vases.

I would like to remind you to please continue to wear your masks when you are in public, practice social distancing when you go out. Unfortunately, the positivity rate is going back up in our community. This is so important for your own safety as well as the safety of your family. We need to be the examples for others. Thank you very much.

While we know this is an incredibly challenging time for you and your family, please be assured that we remain committed to the care and support of your loved one here at St. Francis. Their safety, health and well-being remain our firm commitment.

We will continue to keep you updated as time goes on.

God bless,

Brenda Buttrick RN, LNHA
Administrator