



Visitation Guidelines as of April 5, 2021

Skilled Nursing

1. **Episcopal Church Home General Visitation Plan:**

The New York State Department of Health (DOH) issued new visitation guidance on March 25, 2021. Per the guidance, the Episcopal Church Home's visitation policies are as follows, effective Monday, April 5:

- a. We strongly recommend that you are tested before your visit and that you are vaccinated. For your convenience, the Episcopal Church Home will offer rapid COVID-19 testing for all visitors during the following hours in the Chapel:
 - a. Monday - Friday
 - b. 9:00 - 11:00 a.m. and 2:30 - 4:30 p.m.
- b. We ask that you test at least once per week if you plan to visit three days or less during a 7-day period, and twice per week if you plan to visit four days or more during a 7-day period.
- c. Scheduling visits with residents is no longer required. Visitors may come to ECH seven days a week from 9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.
- d. All visitors will continue to be screened for symptoms and/or potential exposure to COVID-19, as well as have their temperature taken. For the purpose of potential contact tracing, we'll also need to document the visitor's name, address, telephone number, email address, and the date and time of the visit.
- e. ***All visitors must wear a mask covering their mouth and nose and a face shield.*** If a resident is on precautions, visitors are still allowed, but must wear the appropriate PPE (i.e., gowns, gloves, face shields). ECH will provide these items as well as any assistance that is needed with donning and doffing.
- f. It is highly recommended that visitors be tested for COVID-19 prior to their visit.
- g. ECH requests that all visitors be vaccinated against COVID-19. Vaccination is requested, but not required.
- h. If visitors do not meet all of the screening criteria, they may not visit. If visitors are unable to adhere to the core principles of COVID-19 infection prevention, they will be asked to leave and their visitation will be suspended.
- i. There is a limit of two visitors at a time per resident per visit to maintain physical distance as much as possible within the confines of the room or visiting area. Visitors should coordinate with their families so that there is not overlap.
- j. The recommended time limit for visits is no longer than 2 hours.
- k. Per the guidance, families may visit their loved ones in their rooms if they have a private room.
- l. For those residents in semi-private rooms, there are designated visitation rooms for you to visit your loved one in (Room 200, Serenity Room, Lobby, Chapel). If your loved one, or your loved one's roommate is unable to leave the room d/t physical or psychosocial reasons, the visit can

take place in the resident's room. Visitors are to remain on their loved one's side of the room socially distanced from resident's roommate.

- m. The guidance requires limited visitor movement throughout the building. Visitors must go directly to and from the resident's room or visiting area. However, visitors may bring their loved one outdoors if the resident chooses and weather permits. Visitors must go directly to the outdoor area, and then directly back to the resident's room.
- n. Visitors must maintain a social distance of six feet from anyone other than their loved one; i.e., other residents, visitors and staff.
- o. If the resident is fully vaccinated, they can choose to have close contact (including touch) with their visitor while wearing a well-fitting face mask and performing hand-hygiene before and after. Families must ensure that their loved one is properly wearing a mask.
- p. Visitation will not include eating together or other circumstances that would require the visitor to remove their mask.
- q. Compassionate care visits will be allowed at all times, regardless of the resident's vaccination status, the county's COVID-19 positivity rate or an outbreak. Again, if the resident is on isolation precautions, visitors must wear the appropriate PPE during their visit.
- r. Virtual visits may still be scheduled on Thursdays by contacting Jessica Kelley at (585) 546-8439 x3432. Virtual visits should be reserved for those family members who live out of town and are unable to visit residents in person. We highly encourage visitors to use their own technology (cell phones, tablets, laptops) to Zoom or FaceTime with loved ones whenever they wish, as well as to include out-of-town relatives during their visits.

2. **Hospice Visitation/End-of-Life:** Visitation will be allowed for residents at end-of-life during the COVID-19 pandemic. This includes residents on hospice care and those designated by our medical provider to be at end-of-life.

- a. If a resident has a prognosis of 7 days or less, they may have 2 designated visitors. Visitors may visit together or separately for a total of 2 hours combined. The resident or HCP must designate these visitors.
- b. Residents who are imminently or actively dying (72 hours or less) may receive increased visitation hours, and they are permitted 2 visitors at a time. This will be determined by the medical team, the nurse manager and social worker.
- c. If a resident is on hospice, they may have a weekly visit for 1 hour, with 2 designated visitors. These visits must be scheduled for a standing day/time with the social worker. This replaces all other in-person/virtual visits.
- d. The visitor must wear a medical grade mask and face shield the entire time they are in the building. These masks are available for those who do not have them. Proof of a negative COVID-19 test, within 7 days of visit, is **highly recommended** for any in-person visits in order to keep your loved one safe. Hard copy or electronic documentation is acceptable, and ECH rapid tests are provided at ECH Monday-Friday from 9:00-11:00 a.m. and 2:30-4:30 p.m.
- e. These visits are only permitted in the resident's room, not in common areas.
- f. Appropriate PPE must be worn at all times.

3. **Essential Caregiver Support Plan for Episcopal Church Home:**

- a. Visitation between essential caregivers and residents is permitted if the resident's loved one is deemed essential to their care.
- b. Visitation can occur once a day, 7 days a week (in the resident's room).

- c. The essential caregiver must check in at the front desk where they will be screened and have their temperature taken. If they do not meet all of the screening criteria, they may not move ahead with the visit.
- d. If the essential caregiver is a REM resident, they should enter through the front door. In cases of inclement weather, they are to enter through our rehabilitation unit.
- e. The essential caregiver must wear a medical grade mask and face shield the entire time they are in the building. These masks are available for those who do not have them
- f. The essential caregiver must go directly to their loved one's room for their one-hour visit. They may not visit with any other residents or spend time in any common areas. After the visit, essential caregiver must sign out at the front desk.

4. **Compassionate Care Visits for Episcopal Church Home:**

- A. The below is qualifying criteria for a compassionate care visit:
 - a. A documented "significant change" (defined as two or more major declines in a resident's status) in the resident's MDS assessment that would not normally resolve without intervention by staff or clinical interventions (this could also qualify for hospice)
 - b. Significant weight loss
 - c. Depression
 - d. A resident that has been recently admitted and is struggling with the change in environment.
 - e. A resident is grieving after a family member has passed away or learned a family member has a terminal illness.
 - f. A family member that provided ADL care eating, feeding, bathing and dressing previously provided by the family (this could qualify for an essential caregiver visit).
 - g. A resident's psychosocial well-being has been affected by lack of family interaction and visitation.
- B. The compassionate care visitor must wear a medical grade mask and face shield the entire time they are in the building. These masks are available for those who do not have them.
- C. The compassionate care visitor must go directly to their loved one's room or designated visitation room should the resident reside in a semi-private room for their one-hour visit. They may not visit with any other residents or spend time in any common areas. After the visit, the compassionate care visitor must sign out at the front desk.
- D. If a unit is quarantined due to exposure, it will be up to the compassionate care visitor if they want to visit or not.

*All guidelines are subject to community positivity rate.

*Visitor guidelines will be determined by the community prevalence rate.