

## **PLEASE READ... BETHANY MANOR COVID-19 UPDATE FOR BETHANY PLACE ASSISTED LIVING RESIDENTS AND FAMILIES – July 9, 2020**

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You are receiving this communication because you are a resident of Bethany Place Assisted Living, or you have provided, and/or a Bethany Place Assisted Living resident(s) has provided your email address as they have identified you as their family/friend contact person.

You may be aware of a recent announcement that visitor restrictions in Personal Care Homes are changing. Family contact is vital to the emotional wellbeing and quality of life of our residents and we are pleased to advise that effective immediately we are lifting our “essential visitors only” rule for inside visits, and are permitting safe and cautious visitation inside the Bethany Place Assisted Living building effective immediately (please allow us additional time to change signage at entrances to reflect this).

Our new indoor visitation guidelines for the Place Assisted Living are closely in line with the Personal Care visitation guidelines, because as much as possible, we are to treat Assisted Living the same as Personal Care. Please note that these guidelines may only be temporary; pending pandemic related concerns, visiting rules may be changed at any time, including becoming stricter again. When changes occur we will update you accordingly.

Indoor visits cannot occur within Bethany common spaces (e.g. lobbies, hallways, dining room, walkway, games rooms and all other common rooms); indoor visits must take place inside the resident’s suite only.

Up to two family members/friends/support persons can visit each resident in their suite. These two visitors should be the same two people consistently going forward; you should not change it up. Visitors should not be those who attend larger gatherings elsewhere.

Only one of the two visitors should visit inside the suite at one time.

Visitors must self-screen prior to entrance into the building, wear a mask in all common areas of Bethany Place (including elevators and stairwells), practice social/physical distancing and proper hand hygiene. Due to the costs of masks, ongoing supply matters, and the priority to ensure provision of PPE to our staff, Bethany is not able to provide masks to Assisted Living visitors.

As Bethany personnel are not required to screen Assisted Living visitors, visitation appointments do not have to be booked/arranged with Bethany. However, visitors should avoid visiting at meal times so as not to interfere with staff delivery of meals to the resident.

Visitors cannot arrive at the property if feeling unwell and/or showing any symptoms that may be related to COVID-19/similar to COVID-19 symptoms. Visitors from provinces east of Manitoba or from out of the country are not permitted, unless the visitor stays in a local hotel self-monitoring and isolating for a minimum of 14-days before coming onsite.

All visitors must arrive at the main entrance to the Bethany Place building at **211 Pinehouse Drive** or if parking in the visitor parking area in the back parking lot, the visitor may enter using the entrance by the dining room/walkway [you must have your own key to enter via this back entrance, or call the resident to come down and let you in, as there is no Enterphone (intercom) system outside this door].

Immediately after entering use the hand sanitizer dispenser located near the Place elevators just inside the lobby; if you enter via the back entrance there is also a hand sanitizer dispenser located in the dining room. Visitors are not permitted to use the ‘public’ washrooms anywhere within Bethany. If required, the visitor must only use the washroom in the suite of the resident they are visiting.

The visitor must also limit their movement in the facility. This means that the visitor must proceed directly to the resident’s suite and when the visit is over must leave directly out of the building.

Please note that outside visits may be held if you prefer. Outside visits are known to be ‘safer’ when considering potential transmission of COVID-19. Outside visits should still limit the number of households present, maintain social/physical distancing, etc. Please do not hold an outside visit within 6 feet of a resident’s ground floor balcony and keep outside visits to 10 people or less. Outside visits cannot be held within our inner Courtyard; all areas of the Courtyard remain restricted to Bethany residents and staff only.

We also continue to recommend that family do not take an Assisted Living resident out of the facility via vehicle for the purpose of a social visit elsewhere, as social/physical distancing cannot be maintained in a vehicle. However, if the resident needs to go to an appointment related to their health and they are no longer driving on their own, it is preferred that family do take the resident because we feel that is safer than the resident using public transportation. As always, we recommend masks are worn if driving a resident to an appointment.

If you have questions please contact the following:

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