



MARCH 12, 2020 COVID-19 UPDATE AND PLAN OF ACTION – please read this in its entirety.

Due to the everchanging situation with COVID-19 and heightened concerns about the potential spread of this virus and other serious respiratory illnesses like influenza, St. Paul's Senior Living Community, Greenville, PA, has continued to evaluate its preparedness in response to information and recommendations shared by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) the Pennsylvania Department of Health (PA-DOH) and others. As you know, St. Paul's serves a fragile population and we have a responsibility to implement a plan of action to protect our population and our workforce.

Please keep in mind that all of the steps we are taking are in the best interest of the health and safety of residents and staff. Also note, that our plan of action is subject to change as new information becomes available.

Due to current recommendations from our regulatory authorities, it's necessary for us to do our part in further minimizing the risks associated with this virus; therefore, effective immediately the following guidelines, restrictions and limitations will be implemented.

New **GUIDELINES AND RESTRICTIONS FOR VISITORS** include:

- **All visitors are now restricted with the following exceptions:**
 - *Visitors for residents who have an end of life status or are essential to resident care.*
 - *Any visitor meeting this criterion must also pass a screening process.*

We kindly ask all of our residents, family members and visitors to be respectful and understanding of these guidelines and restrictions as they are intended to help minimize the risks associated with virus spread and to keep all of our residents and staff safe. We thank you for your patience and understanding during this time. Visits may be handled in an alternate manner such as through a phone call or via Facetime or Skype (an option our staff may be able to assist with).

St Paul's is establishing the following **GUIDELINES AND RESTRICTIONS FOR VENDORS:**

- **Essential vendor access is being limited as appropriate and only vendors necessary to the care of our residents will be permitted access in resident areas.**
- **Essential vendors will be required to go through the same screening process in place for visitors.**
- **Any non-essential vendors will be restricted access until further notice.**

St. Paul's is establishing the following GUIDELINES AND RESTRICTIONS FOR ALL VOLUNTEERS:

Effective immediately we are suspending volunteer services through March 31, 2020 while we continue to evaluate our plan of action. We will personally notify essential volunteers should we need their assistance and they will be subject to screening procedures.

Services, such as beauty shop, fitness center and the bistro will also be suspended through March 31, 2020 while we work on our plan of action.

St. Paul's is establishing the following GUIDELINES AND RESTRICTIONS FOR ALL STAFF:

- Staff who have been to any of the countries identified by the CDC as Level 1, 2 or 3 may NOT work for at least 14 days.
- Staff who have a temperature of 100.6 degrees or greater and any respiratory symptoms (cough, congestion, sore throat, or shortness of breath) may NOT work until fever free without medication for at least 24 hours.
- Staff who have been exposed to someone with COVID-19 will be subject to additional screening procedures per CDC guidelines.
- Staff who have been on a cruise will be subject to additional screening procedures per CDC guidelines.
- ONLY essential staff (clinical, therapy, RNAC's, social services, dining, housekeeping, maintenance and life enrichment) may enter resident areas at this time. All other staff should remain away from those areas until further notice.

St. Paul's will be vigilant in monitoring this situation and adjust these guidelines and restrictions for visitors, vendors, volunteers and staff as necessary.

The visitor and vendor screening questions referenced above are listed below for your information. ANY "YES" ANSWER RESTRICTS AN INDIVIDUAL FROM ENTERING THE FACILITY UNTIL THE POINT IN WHICH THEY CAN ANSWER "NO."

Screening Questions (these screening questions are subject to change.)

1. In the last 14 DAYS, have you traveled internationally to one of the affected countries (**Level 3: China, Iran, Italy, and South Korea. Level 2: Japan Level 1: Hong Kong per the CDC**)
2. In the last 14 days, have you traveled on a cruise ship?
3. Have you been in contact with someone with COVID-19 or under investigation for COVID-19?
4. Do you have signs or symptoms of a respiratory infection, such as fever, cough, shortness of breath or sore throat?
5. In the last 14 days, have you had contact with someone who is/was ill with respiratory illness?
6. Do you reside in a community where community-based spread of COVID-19 is occurring?

Visitors, vendors and staff are asked to advise one of our facility administrators if they develop any signs or symptoms of COVID-19 within 14 days after visiting a resident at St. Paul's.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

We all can protect ourselves and others from COVID-19 and Influenza by following these general guidelines at all times:

1. Wash hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after using the restroom; before eating; after blowing your nose, coughing or sneezing or between tasks.
2. If soap and water are not readily available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol.
3. Cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue, then throw it in the trash can. If you don't have a tissue, cough into your elbow or sleeve.
4. Do not touch your face, especially the T-zone – your eyes, nose and mouth.
5. Avoid shaking hands; consider touching elbows instead if you believe personal contact is necessary for a greeting.
6. Routinely clean frequently touched surfaces and objects. High touch surfaces include but aren't limited to counters, tabletops, doorknobs, bathroom fixtures, toilets, phones, TV remotes, light switches, keyboards, tablets and bedside tables.
7. Maintain an appropriate social distance (6')
8. Avoid large crowds in confined spaces such as buses, planes, sporting events, concerts, crowded shopping centers, etc.

As always, we encourage you to refer to the CDC, CMS and PA DOH websites for more information.

We continue to stress the importance of handwashing as this is the number one way to prevent the spread of COVID-19 and Influenza.

If you have any questions regarding this communication or St. Paul's Plan of Action please contact one of our administrators: Tammy Lininger, The Villas; Dianna Jones, The Heritage, Jones Serenity Circle and Jones Serenity Lane; Mickie Chapman, The Ridgewood; or Rita Clemente, The Colony.

Please monitor our website (www.stpauls1867.org) and Facebook page (stpaulsseniorlivingcommunity) for updated information.