



A National Lutheran Community

**To:** Health Center Residents, Families and Team Members

**From:** Kyle Hreben, Executive Director

**Date:** May 21, 2021

**Subject:** Health Center Path Forward Update

## Memorandum

We continue to be excited that residents are seeing their loved ones with greater regularity. However, as you are scheduling appointments with your loved one, please remember the following:

- **Families may visit on two different days per week.**
  - We are seeing a trend of families using both the in-person visits twice per week and the virtual visits offered twice per week
  - Please limit your virtual visit to **once per week if that visit is necessary.**
    - Schedule your virtual visit here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/tvarvirtualvisits>
    - Schedule your visit with a resident in assisted living here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/tvaralvisits>
    - Schedule your visit with a resident on the second or third floor here <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/tvarvisits>
    - Residents are looking pretty well-coiffed around our community. Schedule your loved one for a salon appointment. <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/tvarsalon>

We are so pleased that we continue to have good news to report on our path forward. Not only have all of our COVID-19 testing results come back negative (we are only testing non-vaccinated team members at this point), but our community's vaccination percentages continue to increase.

- 71% of all team members are fully vaccinated.
- 92% of skilled nursing residents are fully vaccinated
- 97% of assisted living residents are fully vaccinated

As you know, the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) has updated their guidance regarding masking and social distancing, however, the Maryland Department of Health (MDH) has not changed their requirements for healthcare settings. Keep masking, practicing healthy hand hygiene, and social distancing while visiting at TVAR.

Maryland Department of Health has provided guidance around taking your loved one off campus. Although still not recommended, the guidance is that you maintain proper safety protocols during any outing. This includes limiting contact with unvaccinated individuals (including children until 12 years old), social distancing, and masking. At this time, we strongly discourage any unvaccinated residents leaving for non-medical appointments. For vaccinated residents, it is recommended gatherings are with single households and with vaccinated individuals only. Please coordinate any outings, medical or non-medical with nursing staff. We appreciate your diligence, as we must all focus on our protocols and guidelines now more than ever.

As a reminder, family members are now authorized to do residents' laundry. If you plan to wash your loved one's laundry, please pick up/drop off those laundry items in their room on the days when you come in for your scheduled visits. Laundry cannot be left at the main entrance. Please inform the nursing staff if you plan to start doing your loved one's laundry.

Again, thank you for your diligence. While our path has felt overgrown with weeds and trees at times, we are accomplishing the all-important work of removing every obstacle to progress on our path forward. This proves what we always knew – we are all truly stronger together.