



A National Lutheran Community

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

**From:** Kyle Hreben, Executive Director

**Date:** September 10, 2021

**Subject:** Health Center Path Forward Update

## Memorandum

As directed by Maryland Department of Health (MDH) and to continue to safeguard our community, we completed POC (rapid) tests for residents and team members this week. We are happy to report that all resident and team member tests have returned negative! We are required to complete another round of POC (rapid) tests for residents and staff next week.

Due to our results this week, we can resume in-person visitation for residents in skilled nursing living on the second and third floors. As you return to indoor visitation, please remember our safety guidelines. Visitors must still undergo a health screening at the front desk and remain masked throughout the building. Visitors may not visit common areas or anywhere else throughout the Health Center except in the rooms of family members. Please look at this [video](#) from Stephanie Winters, RN, our Infection Preventionist, as a reminder of our visitation guidelines.

In addition to our current guidelines, MDH has asked us to request that visitors show proof of vaccination. In order to accomplish this, please show your vaccination card or a copy (paper or on your phone) of your vaccination. If you are not fully vaccinated, you may be asked to test prior to visits or bring proof of a negative COVID test within the past seven days.

As a reminder, due to our current outbreak status and the greater community COVID transmission, any non-medical off-campus appointments should be rescheduled. If a resident does leave campus, it is at the clinical team's discretion to require quarantine upon return.

We are also pleased to report that vaccination rates continue to increase. To date, 88% percent of team members and 98% of both assisted living and long-term care residents have been vaccinated for COVID-19. Due to our mandated vaccination deadline of October 31, those numbers are sure to rise. We will be sure to keep you updated regarding vaccination rates for our community.

We have received quite a few calls from residents and families inquiring about getting booster shots of the COVID-19 vaccine. We are currently in the planning stages of when we will be able to offer this dose onsite. For those who are immunocompromised, third doses are already available at CVS, Walgreens, and some physician offices. Please reach out to those locations as needed. Please see the CDC guidance on the dose for immunocompromised individuals [here](#).

Again, thank you for your diligence in helping us keep residents and team members safe at The Village at Rockville.