



A National Lutheran Community

To: All residents, families and team members
From: Erin Wheeler, Healthcare Administrator
Date: April 22, 2022
Subject: Path Forward Update

Memorandum

As we continue to navigate through the COVID-19 pandemic, we want to remind residents, team members and visitors that we are not through the journey yet. We continue to adapt our best practices for infection control and testing based on information and resources available. Following requirements from the Maryland Department of Health, the following protocols will be in place effective **April 25, 2022**:

- Montgomery County is in a high (red) level of COVID-19 transmission (refer to [CDC COVID-19 Integrated County View Site](#)), all visitors, regardless of vaccination status, must provide proof of a negative COVID-19 test obtained within 72 hours of entry into the Health Center or to agree to be tested on-site using a self-administered rapid test.
- Visitors who test positive may not enter the facility. All visitors shall wear a face covering at all times in the Health Center building.
- Visitors who have tested positive for COVID-19 in the past 90 days from the date of visitation are exempt from testing upon showing their positive test result that is more than five days from the time of visit as long as they are no longer exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19.
- Visitors need to show proof of negative test to the concierge EACH time they come for a visit.
- If unable to test on-site, visitors will need to get tested at an outside testing site and must show **negative test results** dated within the past 72 hours upon each visit.

Recognizing visitor testing requirements will change based on the COVID-19 transmission rate within Montgomery County, current testing requirements will be noted on the [Path Forward page of our website](#). Visitors should use this page as a resource to understand the status of testing requirements prior to their visit.

Visitors self-administer testing is available upon entry to the Health Center during “high” county transmission. Once a visitor performs the self-test, you may sit outside or in the chapel while you wait for your test results. Visitors **MUST wait for their test results before proceeding to check-in.**

These additional steps will require additional time and effort on your part. **When self-testing, please allow for 15-20 minutes additional time at check-in/screening.** Thank you in advance for your patience, cooperation and preparation as we implement these updated visitor testing protocols.

In addition to the changes in testing requirements, we also need to inform you of a COVID positive team member. This means we are in a “focused-outbreak” status and will perform additional testing of those residents and team members who identified as being potentially exposed to the positive team member during contract tracing.

Thank you again for your continued collaboration and commitment to providing a safe and healthy environment for residents!