The Village at Rockville

A National Lutheran Community

Memorandum

To: All TVAR residents and team members and Health Center families

From: Erin Wheeler, Healthcare Administrator

Date: May 19, 2023

Re: Mask requirement updates

The time has come to update our masking policies based on recommendations from the CDC and the Maryland Department of Health. **Effective Monday, May 22, in the Health Center, masking is recommended but not required.** The CDC will no longer be collecting transmission rates, so they have instructed health care providers to follow the hospital admission numbers.

Masks will be required if our locale goes "above" specific respiratory illness hospitalization numbers OR if the Health Center is in outbreak, which is defined as at least one active case of COVID-19. In order to communicate expectations and protocols more clearly, we are implementing a color-coded mask status system, which is based on the guidance provided by the Department of Health and Centers for Medicare and Medicaid.

GREEN	YELLOW	RED
Masks are **OPTIONAL**. Feel free to request a mask from the front desk as you desire.	Masks are **ENCOURAGED** due to high respiratory illness in the county/state.	Masks are **REQUIRED** for all who enter the Health Center.

Mask status is monitored and updated weekly based on the Maryland Department of Health respiratory illness hospitalization rates. Additionally, if any section of the Health Center is in an outbreak status, masks will be required for any person entering. Notices will be posted at the entrance of the Health Center.

As a reminder, visitors should NOT visit the community when ill (in any manner not just respiratory) and must follow all guidelines for visitation to the community, which can be found on the Path Forward page of our website. We will continue to follow our guidelines our enhanced surface cleaning.

We are excited to be able to take this step in our COVID-19 recovery. Thank you in advance for your continued partnership in taking the best steps to keep our community safe.