



SKILLED NURSING | ASSISTED LIVING
HOMECARE SERVICES | REHABILITATION
HOSPICE CARE | KOSHER MEALS ON WHEELS

53 Walter Street | Ewing, NJ 08628

December 27, 2021

To Our Residents, Family Members and Staff
Special Edition
Important

As you may be aware, the State of New Jersey is at “severe risk” for people getting the COVID-19 virus. The state has a positivity rate of 15.6% and Mercer County’s positivity rate is 13.7%. (The positivity rate is the percentage of all coronavirus tests performed that are actually positive.) These percentages are very high and translates into a very high rate of transmission.

Greenwood House is currently experiencing an outbreak of the COVID-19 Virus among its staff. Greenwood House has had 18 staff members test positive and while most have recovered, three more staff have just tested positive. Additionally, one resident is positive. While the new indoor visitation guidelines remain in effect, Greenwood House is asking family and friends **NOT** to visit Greenwood House with the exception of End-of Life and Compassionate Care visits.) We cannot enforce a no visitation policy as we must follow the Department of Health’s Executive Directive to allow visitation. But we also need to keep our residents safe. We expect this ‘surge’ of new infections to continue into the first weeks of January.

If you visit Greenwood House, you **MUST** follow the *Core Principles of COVID-19 Infection Prevention*.

As a reminder, the *Core Principles* are as follows:

1. Screening of all who enter our center for signs and symptoms of COVID-19 (e.g., temperature checks, questions or observations about signs or symptoms), and denial of entry of those with signs or symptoms
2. Hand Hygiene (use of alcohol-based hand rub is preferred)
3. Face covering or mask (covering mouth and nose) (see below)
4. Social distancing at least six feet between persons which means no more than two visitors in a resident’s room
5. Instructional signage throughout the facility and proper visitor education on COVID-19 signs and symptoms, infection control precautions, other applicable facility practices (e.g., use of face covering or mask, specified entries, exits and routes to designated areas, hand hygiene)
6. Cleaning and disinfecting high frequency touched surfaces in the facility often, and designated visitation areas after each visit
7. Appropriate staff and visitor use of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)
8. Effective cohorting of residents (e.g., separate areas dedicated to COVID-19 care)
9. Resident and staff testing as required under 42 CFR 483.80(h)

In addition, all visitors must wear a surgical mask when entering the building. We ask that you provide your own mask so that Greenwood House can conserve its PPE. Visitors are not to roam the hallways, linger at the nurse's station or inhabit any area not designated for their visit.

We would also prefer that all visitors be rapid tested for COVID before entering the building. Again, this is not an enforceable rule.

***Note: Visitors who are unable to adhere to the *Core Principles of COVID-19 Infection Prevention* will not be permitted to visit or will be asked to leave.**

Unfortunately, we are stopping communal dining and communal activities until further notice.

We will be COVID testing all staff and residents twice per week until we receive an "End of Outbreak" letter from the Department of Health.

We are sorry to report this news I am sure you are already aware of this surge in COVID-19 infections but, our top priority here at Greenwood House is your loved one's safety.

Sincerely,



Richard Goldstein
Executive Director
Greenwood House

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