

The Shepherd's Center
Neighbors Caring For Neighbors
101 E Cedar Ridge Dr.
Cimarron, KS 67835

Date: October 8, 2020

Dear Families

We, at The Shepherd's Center, want you to know that we are doing everything we can to keep your loved ones safe during this COVID outbreak. Our main goal right now is to keep the COVID from spreading. Upon first staff tested positive on September 18, 2020, we made arrangements for ALL staff to get tested on that following Monday, September 21, 2020 at the Expo Center in Dodge City. We have been working very closely with Dr. Schowengerdt and the Gray County Health Nurse. The Gray County Health Nurse tested All of the residents on September 21, 2020 as well and that is where we found 8 residents had tested positive and 7 staff members. If your loved one tested positive you have already been informed. When we started testing we had the residents who tested positive be kept in isolation in their room and the rest of the residents were in quarantine to their room. According to policies we are only retesting the individuals that tested negative, NOT positive. On September 29, 2020, we retested staff again and had 2 more positive. On September 30th the Gray County Health Nurse came up and tested the residents, all negative. Staff was retested on October 2, 2020 all was negative. We will notify families as soon as we receive any new information. The staff is getting tested twice a week since the outbreak currently and they will continue to get tested depending on what the county positive rate is which ranges from once (1) month, once (1) a week, and/or twice (2) a week.

We have had a lot of questions regarding indoor visitations. We have received additional regulations on the visitations according to CMS guidelines as I will share with you all.

Window visits are always accepted, as weather permits as well as the facetime, skype, fence patio visits.

THERE CAN NOT BE ANY INDOOR VISITS FOR 14 DAYS AFTER THE ONSET OF OUTBREAK TESTING.

Visitation is also determined by our county positive rate which is updated weekly.

Guidance/Indoor Visitation

- Indoor visitations will be permitted in the residents' room only.
- They will be scheduled visits: 10am-11am, 2pm-3pm, and/or 7pm-8pm.
- Call up to the facility and LaTessa will be in charge of scheduling your visit
- Please schedule your visit 24 hrs in advance
- Upon your arrival, about 5 to 10 minutes, call and let us know you are on your way
- Please go to the closest entrance to where your loved one resides.
- Before entering the facility, you will be screened for signs and symptoms for COVID and temperature taken.
- We will also provide personal protective equipment, as needed
- Facemask is required and will need to be worn while in the facility at all times.
- You will be directed to go straight to their room and stay inside their room till the visit is over. If you need anything, we ask that you please push the call light, and we will come to you.
- There will be 2 visitors per resident at a time, once you leave that ends your visit for the day.
- No children under the age of 16 years is permitted.
- The Shepherd's Center staff does have the right to ask you to leave if you are not following our guidelines.

If we have to shut down due to family not following guidelines-CMS Mandates, we stay closed for 28 days.

Visitation Testing

While it is not required at this time, CMS is encouraging facilities that are in medium to high positivity counties to advise the families to go get tested before coming, especially families that visits more than once a week. Bring those results with you so we can attach that to the screening, for state purposes and everyone's safety as well.

Keeping Families Updated

Please go to The Shepherd's Center Facebook and/or our website at www.theshepherdscenter.org, we will keep you posted on any updates. If your loved one does test positive, the nurse will call you personally.

We are doing 2 more rounds of testing each round 5 days apart for residents, and our staff is being tested two times per week.

We have tested staff on October 5, 2020-All were negative

Residents will be tested on October 7, 2020-All were negative

If all goes good and we do not have any positive cases, We will re-open on Nov. 2nd.

If you have any questions or concerns, Please feel free to talk to Kyra Hagerman, DON or myself at any time.

Thank you

Tabitha Rincon

Administrator