Dear Gurwin Residents and Family Members:

We are happy to be writing today as we near our target date of October 7 to officially begin limited, modified visitation in our nursing and rehabilitation center. As you are aware, the NY State Department of Health (DOH) has required an additional round of surveillance testing among our residents, which is being completed today. Pending the results of those tests, assuming there are no new positive tests for our staff, and with approval from the DOH, we anticipate being able to post a visiting schedule and link for sign ups next week.

While we are all very excited by the prospect of visitation, we want to caution our families and residents about expectations. While we are using the term "visitation," the time you will spend with your loved one will be very different from the time you had prior to the pandemic. The DOH has mandated the following:

- Visiting will be outdoors; therefore, you will not be visiting in a resident’s room. Outdoor visitation "stations" will be set up in our main courtyard.
- Based on space requirements, four visits will take place at one time. Visits will be 15 minutes in duration.
- Only two visitors will be permitted per resident at any one time. One must be 18 years of age or older.
- During the visit, residents and family members must maintain social distancing at all times. Family members will remain at one end of the assigned visitation station, and the resident will remain at the opposite end. Families who do not adhere to this rule may be asked to leave and forfeit future visiting privileges.
- Visitors and residents will wear a mask or face covering at all times during the visit. Visitors must have a face covering to enter the building.
- Visitors will need to provide evidence of a negative COVID-19 test administered within seven (7) days of the visit. A hotline is available to help find a testing site: 1-888-364-3065, or you can check the DOH website.
- In addition, visitors will need to provide information that we will keep on file should the DOH need to contact you (for example, for contact tracing purposes). This information includes name, address, daytime phone, evening phone and email address.
- All visitors will need to fill out a screening form and have their temperature recorded upon entry to the building, before proceeding to the visitation area.
- Visits will take place Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings and afternoons to start. During this time, Drive-Up Visits will continue on Tuesdays, Thursdays and every other Sunday. Families may sign up for one in-person visit and one Drive-Up visit per month. You may also sign up for a weekly virtual visit and continue sending Gurwin Gram Grams for our staff to deliver to your loved one - see below for details.

We anticipate the sign-up form for visits will go live on Wednesday, September 30 at 9:30 am. The link will be provided in the weekly email update that is sent Tuesday evening, September 29. If you have any questions, please feel free to email info@gurwin.org.

Sincerely,
The Gurwin Care Team

Video Chat with your loved one: email videochat@gurwin.org to request a time. (Limit one per family per week, please.)

Send your loved one a Gurwin Gram Gram. Send a short video to us via Facebook Messenger or by email to info@gurwin.org, and we’ll deliver your good wishes.


Gurwin Healthcare System
631.715.2000 | 68 Hauppauge Road · Commack, NY 11725 | gurwin.org