Dear Gurwin Residents and Family Members:

As you know, we are required by the NY State Department of Health (DOH) to inform you any time we have a new positive case of COVID-19 among our staff or residents. We are writing today to inform you that one staff member has tested positive for COVID-19. This staff member is fully vaccinated, and has no resident contact; therefore, visitation is not affected by this positive result.

We are so pleased to see so many family members visiting, and hope that the changes we've made to our visitation plan have been helpful. We appreciate all of you who arrive with your screening form already filled out, as this facilitates the process and helps us move people past screening and up to our residents more quickly. While we understand how precious the visitation time is, and how difficult it may be to leave your loved one, we do ask that you respect the time limits and exit the building at the conclusion of your 90 minute visiting window. If you have questions, please speak with the screeners in the main lobby.

As a reminder, visits should take place either in the resident's room or on one of our patios, weather permitting. Please refrain from accessing other areas of the building or visiting other residents at this time. Scheduling for visits for the next week (Monday through Sunday) are posted each Friday at 3:30 PM. Once you click through to the sign up link, find your loved-one's unit, and click through to sign up for a visit on that unit's schedule. **DO NOT USE THE "CREATE A SIGN UP" BUTTON AT THE TOP OF THE PAGE.** Each resident may receive visits twice per week at this time. Visitors must be 12 or older; no pets, please.

**PLEASE NOTE:**

- Mask regulations are rapidly changing in our communities, and you may wonder if you need to wear a mask during your visit. The answer is yes. Although many places are relaxing the mask requirement, nursing homes and other adult care facilities must still require a mask, per the NY State Department of Health.
- Please be sure to use hand sanitizer when entering and leaving our facility.
• When in resident's room, please do not sit on their bed or the other bed in the room, if unoccupied. This is to comply with infection control protocols.

Schedule your visit at bit.ly/GurwinVisits.

**Quarantine Note:** 3 West is currently on quarantine until May 28, pending test results. All other units are able to receive visits at this time.

**Streamlining Visitation Check-In**

If you have visited recently, you may have noticed several kiosks in our lobby area. We are moving to a web-based screening system for both our employees and our visitors, and invite you to get a head-start on signing up, which will enable you to sign in quicker beginning June 1.

The system, called Accushield, allows visitors to download an app to their smart phone, where they can answer the screening questions currently on the paper form up to one hour prior to their visit. Once registered, visitors can check in and the system will issue a QR code, which may then be used for a touchless check-in at the kiosk. Without the app, visitors may still check in and answer the screening questions at the kiosk manually. The kiosk will also screen for a temperature, and issue a visitor badge, which must be worn at all times while in the Gurwin Center.

If you are visiting this week, be sure to visit the app store to download the app, then set up an account at one of the kiosks, which will require your name and phone number, as well as for you to set a PIN. This one-time registration will then be good for future visits. We look forward to quicker check-ins beginning June 1. Please see the lobby screeners for more information.

**Weekly Cumulative Statistics for COVID-19**

In addition to informing you about new COVID-19 cases, we are also required by the DOH to provide weekly updates on the incidence of the COVID-19 virus in our facility and our cumulative numbers associated with the pandemic since its inception.

Should a resident test positive, he or she will be moved to our COVID-19 isolation unit, and cared for there for a minimum of 14 days, until a negative clinical test result is received. Currently, we don't have any residents who are COVID-19 positive in our facility. Since the pandemic began, we have celebrated well more than 225 recoveries; sadly, we mourn 67 residents who were lost to the virus.

Since March 2020, 281 staff members have tested positive for the virus, one since last week. Most staff members who test positive are asymptomatic and found through our weekly surveillance testing protocols. Regardless, any staff member testing positive is required to quarantine at home for 14 days, and may only return to work after receiving a negative clinical test result. More than 62%
of our staff is now vaccinated against COVID-19, and we continue to vaccinate in-house as new staff members are ready.

Please be assured you will be promptly notified by phone if your loved one is identified as a suspected or positive case of COVID-19, is on a floor which is quarantined, or has any other significant change in condition. You will find past Family and Resident Updates on our website at www.gurwin.org/family-updates/ should you need to access them. Thank you, as always, for your support. We look forward to seeing you soon!

The Gurwin Care Team

Schedule a visit with your loved one. Go to bit.ly/GurwinVisits to sign up.

Before you visit, check for daily visitation updates at (631) 715-2200.

Want to get vaccinated? Our in-house pharmacy is now providing vaccinations to resident and staff family members who are interested. Sign up at bit.ly/GurwinVaccineClinic, or email CovidVaccine@gurwin.org for more information. We are currently offering the Moderna vaccine and the Johnson & Johnson vaccine.

Video Chat with your loved one: email videochat@gurwin.org. (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

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