

PVSL COVID-19 Update

October 16, 2020

An Update on Our Response to the Coronavirus (COVID-19):

We are committed to being vigilant, transparent, and steadfast in our efforts to preserve the health and safety of those we serve. Implementing precautions to mitigate the spread of the Coronavirus (COVID-19) is ongoing and based on recommendations from the Minnesota Department of Health and other health agencies. We continue to review and assess our preparedness and take additional steps in all areas where we believe we can be more effective overall. While we have been aggressively implementing precautions, we are unable to completely control an infectious virus – the cause of this pandemic.

An update on our various locations as of today:

- Care Center: **No active cases.** Visitation allowed beginning Wednesday, October 21st.
- Riverfront Manor: **No active cases.** Visitation allowed beginning Wednesday, October 21st.
- Riverfront Main: **No active cases.** Visitation allowed beginning Wednesday, October 21st.

The health and safety of those we serve as well as our staff are our highest priority. We are grateful to our residents and families, our staff, and the community, for helping us manage the risk of COVID-19. The health and safety of our residents and staff has guided our response to COVID-19 throughout the pandemic. This unfortunate time of separation continues to be extremely difficult for our residents and their loved ones.

The Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) recently updated guidance that modifies visitation options in our setting. **The guidance allows for visits with residents in their rooms effective on October 21, 2020.** However, there are specific criteria and recommendations provided by MDH, which are in alignment with recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention, that must be met to safely offer visitation with loved ones in our building. This includes but is not limited to the current status of COVID-19 in our building and in our county, as well as other clinical and safety risk factors.

Please know that the COVID-19 virus is still being contagiously transmitted throughout our state and county. Because of that, we may need to restrict visitation again if we experience positive cases of COVID-19 in our setting or identify a broader risk of exposure both in our setting and/or the broader community.

While we welcome this updated visitation guidance MDH, we are proceeding carefully as the ongoing pandemic may cause us to make changes to visitation if we identify a high risk to our residents and staff.

The Centers for Disease Control reminds us all to implement preventive actions that can help prevent the spread of respiratory illnesses:

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after going to the bathroom; before eating; and after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing. If soap and water are not readily available, use a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol. Always wash your hands with soap and water if your hands are visibly dirty.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.

- Stay home when you are sick, except to get medical care.
- Cover your coughs and sneezes with a tissue.
- Clean frequently touched surfaces and objects daily (e.g., tables, countertops, light switches, doorknobs, and cabinet handles) using a regular household detergent and water.

The Minnesota Department of Health, has set up a free hotline for anyone who has questions about Coronavirus (COVID-19). Call the MDH hotline at: 1-651-201-3920. We will continue to provide updates to you to keep you informed of our ongoing work. **Please note: This is a fluid situation and updates are in continuous development. Help us keep family and loved ones informed by visiting our** website: <http://pelicanvalleyseniorliving.org/coronavirus/> or visiting our secured resident and family website portal: <https://www.knutenelson.org/covid-19-communication-pelican-valley-senior-living>

*Health agencies providing recommendations to us include the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, World Health Organization, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, local medical advisors and public health advisors among others.