



**To: Timbercrest Community**

**From: Christy Huiras, Chief Operating Officer**

**Date: March 3, 2021**

**Re: COVID-19 Regulatory and Policy Updates**

It has been said that with freedom comes great responsibility. Timbercrest has been able over the last several weeks to lessen some restrictions, giving residents a greater sense of freedom to move about while now being able to eat in our community dining rooms and enjoy various activities. Last week we opened our doors to visitors in the Manor. Each of us – whether a resident, family member, employee, or visitor – has great responsibility to ensure our community remains well. We must be diligent in wearing masks, washing hands frequently, and physical distancing (6 feet or more). Let's keep our community well and continue enjoying the opportunities in place.

This week, the Indiana State Department of Health issued updated guidance on leaving the campus (excursions) and indoor visits.

### **Excursions**

An excursion is leaving the campus for less than 24 hours in duration. Residents may leave the campus provided they take proper precautions with physical distancing, hand hygiene, and mask wearing. Residents do not require to be isolated upon return to Timbercrest but will be monitored for symptoms. Leaves from campus exceeding 24 hours will require isolation upon return. Depending on the resident's care needs, isolation in Health Care may be required. If you plan to be gone for more than 24 hours (or there is a possibility) please contact Sabine Thomas, Administrator, to discuss your responsibilities. Families will not be able to go to the resident's room to pick up the resident. Please let us know if assistance will be needed.

### **Visits**

It is necessary to make a couple of changes to our visitation processes. The changes begin on Friday, March 5<sup>th</sup>.

- For better sanitation oversight, Health Care and Crestwood visits will transition to scheduled indoor visits held in the visiting areas near the Hub. *Visiting hours in Health Care and Crestwood will no longer be available.*
- Visitation appointments are now one hour long. Your visit can be shorter than one hour if desired.
- A TOTAL of 4 individuals including the resident(s) may safely visit in a lounge.
- Make your visit appointments at least 2 business days (Monday-Friday) in advance. Due to the timing of this notice and the changes, the scheduling calendar for this Friday, Saturday, and Sunday visits will close at Noon on Thursday. Appointments can be made by going to the COVID-19 Information page on Timbercrest's website ([www.timbercrest.org](http://www.timbercrest.org)) and select Schedule an In-Person Visit.

Visit guidelines as established by the Indiana State Department of Health:

- Follow these criteria or your privilege of visitation may be revoked.
- All visitors will participate in and pass a symptom screening and temperature check. The screening form must be fully completed, including a contact phone number. (ENTER at the Hub entrance.)
- Use alcohol-based hand rub upon arrival
- Wear a mask at all times
- Maintain at least 6 feet of physical distance from all residents in the building
- Use the route indicated by Timbercrest to travel to and from the visitation area
- Be able to manage children who are with you. Children must screen in and wear a mask during the entire visit. Children younger than 2 are not required to wear a mask per CDC guidance.
- Due to the mask requirement, eating together is not permitted. Food may be brought to the resident for consumption later.
- Accommodations are available for residents who are bedbound or who, for health reasons, cannot leave their rooms.
- Residents who are in isolation are not able to have in-person visits.

Virtual Visits are available by emailing [visits@timbercrest.org](mailto:visits@timbercrest.org) at least 2 business days in advance. A staff member will coordinate a time with you

Outdoor visits are also available by emailing [visits@timbercrest.org](mailto:visits@timbercrest.org). Please request at least 2 business days in advance. Outdoor visits are subject to the weather conditions and the health of the resident.

### **Neighborhood Home Residents**

Several areas of the Manor were opened up to Neighborhood Home residents for exercise and wellness opportunities. However, considering regulatory guidance, it is necessary to limit the use of the pool tables to Manor residents at this time.

### **Volunteer Opportunities**

At this time, volunteer opportunities are limited to Neighborhood Home and Manor residents. Neighborhood Home and Manor residents are required to be fully vaccinated. Neighborhood Home residents are required to be tested according to the employee testing schedule. The following opportunities are available:

- Volunteer drivers – contact Brian Daniels or Kelli McCombs
- Neighborhood Market volunteers – contact Brian Daniels or Melissa Shorter
- Visitation assistance – escort Health Care and Crestwood residents safely to and from the visit areas; contact Brian Daniels

While we anticipate this is a new beginning for us, it is important that we continue to work hard to keep our community well. Thank you for continuing to do your part.

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