

To: All Residents

From: Vernon M. Baker, Executive Director

Stephanie Clontz, Director of Resident Services

Re: Updated COVID and Infection Control Protocols

Date: May 21, 2021

Good day everyone,

We are pleased to announce some updates regarding our COVID and infection control protocols.

Below are the updated changes in COVID protocols for Independent Living:

### Masks

- We encourage continued mask use among Independent Living residents while Mecklenburg County positivity rate is above 5%. (The vaccine does not provide 100% protection, and fully vaccinated people are at high risk and can still contract COVID and be seriously ill.)
- Visitors are required to wear cloth masks or higher-level protection in common areas regardless of positivity rate and regardless if vaccinated or not.
- All staff serving Independent Living areas are required to wear cloth masks or higher-level protection indoors and outdoors when in close contact with others.

# Events

- There is no longer a capacity limitation other than building code maximum room occupancy. However, The Pines reserves the right to limit capacity if the positivity rate exceeds10%.
- Visitor usage of common areas
  - Dining venues
    - Visitors are permitted to dine with their family member(s) who are residents except if the positivity rate is greater than 10% or if there is an outbreak (one or more cases) at The Pines.

- We will continue reservation only seating for Marketplace, Pub and Heritage venues; no reservation is needed for the Davis Café.
- Events
  - Visitors are permitted to attend events but must mask in common areas.
- Visitors are permitted to be in other common areas but must wear masks.
- Elevators
  - No capacity limitations due to COVID.
- Laundry rooms
  - No capacity limitations due to COVID.
- Lounges
  - No capacity limitations due to COVID.

# Updated changes in COVID protocols for the Schramm Health Center

### Masks

- Guidance recommends residents wear masks if they are out of their room, receiving care or have a visitor in their room, However, they have the right to refuse to wear a mask.
- Staff working in the Health Center must wear a procedure mask or higher level of protection if no COVID outbreak; KN95 or N95 masks are required during an outbreak.
- Visitors must wear a mask. (Pines will provide masks if visitor needs appropriate mask.)

### Dining

 All residents in Assisted Living and Nursing Care have returned to dining in their dining rooms.

### Activities

All activities have resumed.

### Visitation

- Indoor routine visitation has resumed as of Friday, May 14<sup>th</sup>.
- No appointments are required unless it is a window visit. To make an appointment please call the activities department at ext. 1499.
- In case of another outbreak (one or more cases) we will need to close down routine indoor visitation for 14 days. This does not include visitation through compassionate care order, outdoor visits or window visits.

# COVID-19 Testing

 We will continue to follow the state and federal guidelines regarding testing. Please remember that The Pines' protocols are subject to change depending upon guidance from public health authorities.