

## CORONAVIRUS DISEASE (COVID-19)

### VISITATION POLICY FOR ST. COLUMBAN'S ON THE LAKE RETIREMENT HOME

#### AMENDMENT 3/03/2022

- When there is a confirmed positive case of COVID or other communicable disease in the facility the local health department must be notified and follow all recommendeds made by local health department.
- Although it is safer for visitors not to enter the facility while the local health department conducts an outbreak investigation, visitors should be allowed in the facility, be made fully aware of the potential risks associated with visiting during an outbreak investigation, and adhere at all times to infection control prevention. Residents and visitors should wear masks during visits regardless of vaccination status and all visits will occur in the resident's room.
- Visitors must maintain physical distance from other residents and facility staff.
- Visitors who have a positive viral test for COVID, symptoms of COVID irrespective of test result, or currently meet the criteria for quarantine, should not enter the facility. All visitors, with the exception of emergency personnel, must be screened for these exclusions.
- St. Columban's may not limit the number of visitors a resident can have at any one time, nor the frequency or length of visits, or require advance scheduling of visits. However, the facility must ensure physical distancing can be maintained and avoid large gatherings.
- All residents and visitors should wear face masks and physically distance.
- Visitors should wear a face mask while around other residents or staff regardless of vaccination status.
- St. Columban's may ask a visitor about their vaccination status however, visitors are not required to be tested or vaccinated or show proof of vaccination as a condition of visitation.

**ST. COLUMBAN'S ON THE LAKE  
RETIREMENT HOME  
SILVER CREEK, NEW YORK 14136**

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**CORONAVIRUS DISEASE (COVID-19)**

**VISITATION POLICY FOR ST. COLUMBAN'S ON THE LAKE RETIREMENT HOME**

**Amendment 1/13/2022**

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**Policy:**

To ensure resident and staff health and safety.

If the facility has a COVID-19 positive case, St. Columban's on the Lake will follow the guidance from the local and regional DOH regarding pausing visitation. Families and residents will be notified in person, by phone and or email regarding changes to visitation.

Families will be notified within 24 hours of a resident death.

Special visitation accommodations will be arranged to those who have been assigned Compassionate Care Visitors and or Personal Care Visitors.

**Procedure:**

- Visitation will be allowed, (weather pending) on the patio, pavilion, Support Kitchen, and gazebo. In-house visits are allowed if the visitor is able to provide proof of vaccination.
- Adequate staff are present to allow for personnel to help with the residents, monitoring of visitation, and cleaning and disinfecting visitation areas after each visit.
- Visitor is 18 years of age or older or accompanied by an adult 18 years of age or older.
- Limited to 1-4 visitors per resident per visit.
- Visitation hours will be Monday-Sunday from 10:30 A.M. to 8:00 P.M.
- Face masks are available for residents and visitors during visitation. Face masks are required for all visitors.
- St. Columban's on the Lake will provide alcohol-based hand sanitizer to visitors and residents, and, if needed, staff will demonstrate appropriate use.
- Hand sanitizer is located on the desk along with the visitor logbook.
- In-house visits will be limited to 60 minutes. Though, this is flexible depending on individual resident needs.
- Visitors must uphold the 6-foot social distancing.
- No touching each other or sharing objects such as playing cards, board games etc. UNLESS all parties are fully vaccinated.
- When a visitor arrives, they must use the hand sanitizer that is provided. Visitor must ring the doorbell, notifying staff that they are here.
- Visitors are screened for signs and symptoms of COVID-19 prior to resident access and refuse access if they exhibit any symptoms. Screening must consist of both temperature checks and asking screening questions regarding COVID-19 signs and symptoms and vaccination status.



- All visitors must sign in at the logbook and have their temperatures taken with each visit.
- St. Columban's on the Lake will maintain and retain documentation of the Visitor Logbook and make it available upon the DOH request and for potential contact tracing, up to one year.
- St. Columban's on the Lake will maintain signage regarding face mask utilization and hand hygiene practices.

The Visitor Logbook will include the following:

- First and last name of the visitor;
- Date and time of visit;
- Name of resident they are visiting;
- The visitor's vaccination status;
- If the visitor is experiencing any COVID-19 signs and symptoms

**Note:**

Areas where the visitors and residents meet are appropriately disinfected in between visitations, using an EPA-approved disinfectant; disinfectant spray or wipes.

All visitors must follow the rules set by St. Columban's on the Lake or you will be asked to leave, possibly jeopardizing future visits.

#### **OUTDOOR VISITS:**

- Visitors need to be cognizant that space and seating are limited and that they need to accommodate our residents when it comes to available seating on the patio, at the pavilion, or the gazebo.
- Outdoor visits will have the same procedures as indoor visits.
- 6-foot distancing remains in place, no exchanging items, no playing games, or cards. **UNLESS** all parties are fully vaccinated.
- Hand sanitizer is recommended before and after visits.

#### **ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION:**

- Electronic visits such as Zoom, Skype and Facetime are additional ways to communicate, even if the facility is under the 14-day quarantine, due to a resident and or staff having a positive COVID test result. Please call (716) 934-4515 to set up an electronic visit.
- Please consider weekdays and during normal business hours, 9am-5pm for electronic visits as the office management helps with the set up, and sometimes there is a need to use their personal smartphones, or office computers to accommodate this request.

#### **Compassionate Care or Personal Care Visitors:**

Compassionate Care or Personal Care visitors are permitted when visitation may not otherwise be permitted in accordance with the Department of Health's current visitation guidance. Compassionate Care or Personal care visits include:

- Newly admitted residents with difficulty adjusting to the St. Columban's on the Lake environment and lack of in-person family support.
- Resident recently grieving the loss of a friend or loved one.
- Resident who previously received in-person support and/or cueing from family for eating and drinking and are now experiencing dehydration and/or weight loss.
- Residents who are exhibiting signs and symptoms of emotional distress including, but not limited to, seldomly speaking or crying more frequently (when the resident had rarely cried in

the past), refusing to participate in an activity or activities, staying in bed longer than usual, or exhibiting behavior considered abnormal for the individual.

- Residents who receive religious or spiritual support from clergy or another layperson.
- Resident requests and the visitor is able and acceptable to helping with the resident's personal care procedures.

The situations above are not intended to be an exhaustive list. Additional compassionate care situation may be considered by St. Columban's on the Lake on a resident-specific basis.

Though, Compassionate Care visitors and Personal Care Visitors have special visitation privileges during a shutdown of the facility, due to illnesses or whatever state of emergency has been put into place. However, the visitor has to abide by all other procedures and rules that are put into place for all visitors.