

January 13, 2022

Dear Friends, Families and Visitors of the Home,

I hope this letter finds you all well and safe.

On January 7, 2022, Governor Kathy Hochul issued an Executive Order stating that all visitors to Nursing Homes in New York State must wear surgical masks and have a negative COVID-19 test prior to visiting.

On January 12, 2022, the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) issued the requirements which nursing homes must follow in order to implement and remain in compliance with this Executive Order.

NYSDOH has implemented the following protocols for all visitors entering a nursing home in New York State during the duration of the Omicron outbreak:

Accordingly, the following will be enacted:

All visitors must wear a well-fitting surgical mask or a higher quality mask (i.e., KN95 or N95) at all times during any visitation at the facility. The Home will have surgical masks available at the front desk. If you wish, a cloth mask may be placed over the surgical mask. The masks must cover both the nose and the mouth.

In addition, all nursing homes licensed and regulated by NYSDOH must verify that visitors have received a negative COVID-19 test result one day prior to visitation for antigen (rapid) tests and two days prior to visitation for PCR tests. This means, for example, that a test for a Sunday visit should be conducted no earlier than Saturday if it's an antigen (rapid) test or Friday if it's a PCR test. There are several testing sites throughout the borough for your convenience.

For those who are unable to acquire a test within the time frames listed above, the Home can provide a rapid test (while supplies last) for visitors to test themselves in a designated area. We have a limited supply of iHealth OTC COVID-19 antigen (rapid) tests for this purpose. After self-testing, you will then need to proceed to the front desk and provide the negative test and the screening form to the front desk personnel in order to gain access to the Home. If you test

positive for COVID-19, you must submit the screening form and must leave the facility immediately.

Please note that the facility staff will not conduct COVID testing for visitors.

I understand that this may be inconvenient and contrary to your own personal beliefs. In addition, there are still many questions that we do not have the answers to, so we ask that you bear with us during this time. We expect further clarification of this guidance to be forthcoming. Regardless, we are compelled to follow any and all directives issued by the NYSDOH.

Therefore, we ask that you cooperate with staff of the Home in this regard.

This mandate is effective immediately.

Thank you for your continued cooperation.

Be safe and God Bless You.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Anthony Restaino', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Anthony J. Restaino, CNHA, FACHCA
Executive Director