

ROCK COUNTY, WISCONSIN



Rock Haven Nursing Home  
P. O. Box 920  
Janesville, Wisconsin 53547-0920  
608-757-5000  
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## URGENT MEMORANDUM

**DATE:** January 29, 2021

**TO:** Rock Haven Residents and Families

**FROM:** Sara Beran, Interim Nursing Home Administrator

**RE:** Paperless Notifications, Three or More with New Onset Respiratory Symptoms, and Updates

Dear Rock Haven Residents and Families:

**Rock Haven will no longer be sending routine notifications through the mail.** We will still notify residents and their families for each positive case of COVID-19 and cluster of 3 or more staff members or residents with new onset respiratory symptoms within 72 hours, but **they can be found at our website, <https://www.co.rock.wi.us/rockhaven>**. The red font at the top of the website landing page will include the date of when the most recent memorandum is uploaded. All memorandums will be shared under the "Rock Haven Memos" tab. If you do not have internet access, please call (608) 757-5399 and you will continue to receive a paper copy of each memorandum. Residents who are responsible for themselves will also continue to receive a paper copy of the memorandum.

In this memorandum, we would also like to share that we have had 3 or more staff members or residents with new onset respiratory symptoms within 72 hours. We're currently following all Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidance, as well as, guidance from the Centers of Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). This includes all staff members adhering to the "Criteria for Return to Work for Health Care Personnel with Confirmed or Suspected COVID-19" guidance issued by the CDC before returning to work. In addition, all residents who experience signs or symptoms of COVID-19 are immediately quarantined to their room pending a negative COVID-19 test and improvement in signs and symptoms. .

We are continuing to follow the practices below to ensure the safety of residents and staff:

- All residents and staff are tested twice weekly for COVID-19;
- Prior to each shift, staff wash their hands, take their temperature, and answer a series of questions to ensure they are not exhibiting any known COVID-19 symptoms;
- Staff are required to participate in hand washing, personal protective equipment, and disinfecting audits;
- We conduct a rigorous sanitation regimen that follows, and in some cases exceeds, all state and federal guidelines. This includes increasing the daily volume of cleaning done in common, medical and residential areas. All protective and medical equipment are thoroughly cleaned and disinfected according to manufacturer instructions;

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- Residents and staff maintain 6 feet of social distance when not providing direct care and all gatherings are limited in size;
- Lastly, all employees continue to wear face shields and procedure masks for the entirety of their shift, and residents are encouraged to remain in their rooms, wear a mask outside their room and are monitored 3x per day for new onset of respiratory symptoms.

The Rock County board voted to confirm the mandatory vaccine against COVID-19 for staff, with an amendment, on January 28<sup>th</sup>. Those who are included in the 1990 Americans with Disabilities Act, Title VII of the Civils Right Act of 1964, and the amendment to Title VII in 1978's Pregnancy Discrimination Act will be offered a reasonable accommodation instead of receiving the vaccine. Residents are not required to receive the vaccine. Our second vaccine clinic will be February 2<sup>nd</sup>. We will include the total number of vaccinated staff and residents in the next memorandum.

Unfortunately, indoor visitation will remain restricted to compassion visits until the county positivity rate is below 10% and the facility is not conducting outbreak testing. Please contact your social worker – Gail Sullivan (608) 757-5325 or Theresa Talbert (608) 757-5104 to schedule a visit through FaceTime, Zoom, Google Duo, phone calls, window visits, and emails.

We will continue to provide updates with as much information as we can on our efforts to combat COVID-19 and how we are best caring for our residents.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns.

Thank you,

*Sara Beran*

Sara Beran, RN  
Interim Nursing Home Administrator  
(608) 757-5332