



1304 Laurel Oak Rd  
Voorhees, NJ 08043  
P: 856.346.3300  
F: 856.435.4223

Providing Specialized Nursing  
& Advanced Pulmonary Care

## Weekly Family-Guardian Communication

...from the Interdisciplinary Care Team-4/1/2022

*In our effort to maintain open and honest communication, we will continue to send you updates about all Respiratory Viral Outbreaks and the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19). We hope you find this information helpful.*

### Resident Update

Our Residents are well in their typical states of health.

### Staff Update

Our Staff are well.

### Resident/Staff COVID-19 Testing

Routine testing continues for our Staff that are not up to date with the vaccine. Residents testing continues if showing signs or symptoms of illness, have returned from a hospital or therapeutic leave of absence or are a new Resident of VPF.

### Visitation

Effective immediately, we have returned to open access in room visitation for all Resident Family-Guardians. Appointments are no longer required and visits will take place in the Resident's Room following strict infection prevention and control practices. We also offer video visitation for our Families upon request.

### COVID-19 Vaccine

We offer the Pfizer-BioTech vaccine to all eligible Residents age 5 and older and will provide the vaccine with Family-Guardian permission. **Although the vaccine is not mandatory to receive for our Residents and Family-Guardians, it is highly recommended for all individuals to prevent the spread of COVID-19.** The vaccine is readily available at various sites in the community for all NJ Residents. A NJ State toll free Hotline can be contacted at 855-568-0545 to assist you with general questions about the vaccines, eligibility and location of vaccination sites or you can visit the NJ Hub Website: [covid-19.nj.gov](https://covid-19.nj.gov). **We highly encourage ALL to receive the vaccine and booster!** It is now mandatory for all eligible NJ Health Care Workers to receive a COVID-19 vaccine and booster. We are in compliance with this requirement.

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### **Our Commitment**

Resident and Staff wellness and safety is our top priority. Please be reassured we continue to follow all core standards of Infection Prevention and Control measures partnering with the NJ DOH to maintain wellness. Throughout the pandemic, our team has worked tirelessly to remain up to date on all current COVID-19 data and recommendations from science and medical experts to make the best decisions for our Residents, Families, Staff and Community. **Prior to the Federal and State mandate for Staff working in Long Term Care Facilities to receive the COVID-19 Vaccine, we decided to require that all of our Staff be fully vaccinated. We feel this is our responsibility to our community and a necessary step in ending this pandemic.**

### **Our Appreciation**

A heartfelt thank you to our Residents, Family-Guardians and Community Care Partners for their continued patience, support and trust in us.

### **Important Communication Updates**

Our automated Family-Guardian notification system is in place that is linked to our Electronic Medical Record. We are sending all medical appointments, facility outings and urgent messages from our automated system to your cell phone or landline. In the near future, other notifications we typically mail will be sent by email if you have an email address. We will continue to mail information for those without an email address. We will continue to mail all Resident Family-Guardians important updates as needed. Our Weekly Update will available on our website for review.

It is **FLU SEASON!** We encourage our Residents and Family-Guardians to receive a yearly flu vaccine to help keep us well especially during the COVID-19 PANDEMIC. The State of NJ requires all individuals employed in any NJ healthcare facility receive a yearly flu vaccine unless they have a medical exemption from a healthcare provider. We have provided the vaccine to all eligible Staff and Residents with Family-Guardian permission.

Be well.