



June 22, 2021

Dear Residents, Families and Staff Members,

I am delighted to share good news about Trinity Health Senior Communities' approval of more reopening policies. They comply with CDC guidelines that the Illinois and Chicago Departments of Public Health apply to our community. Please review *Visitor Guidelines* posted on our website to view our complete list.

All residents' visitors now

- Can have four people visit at one time
- Can spend two hours with a resident anytime between 10am and 8pm in a resident's apartment, suite or room and remove their mask once inside
- Have no age limit, although children 12 and younger are required to be accompanied by an adult
- Can hug and hold hands with a fully vaccinated resident

Our basic precautions for all visitors still require

- Arriving wearing a mask that covers the mouth and nose; practice hand hygiene and social distancing outside a residence
- Registering at the reception desk to complete a health screening questionnaire and temperature check as well as a contact information form
- Going directly to a resident's home and avoiding any time in common areas including the Chapel, Bistro and dining rooms

Please contact Sandy Urbaniak at SUrbaniak@MercyCircle.org or 773-253-3622 if you would like to request any special accommodations.

We also encourage residents and guests to enjoy visiting outdoors on the patio adjacent to the assisted living wing and on the benches near our main entrance. We also urge all guests to get vaccinated if they have not already done so.

Adjustments to other practices

I am happy to report that 100 percent of our permanent and long-term residents are fully vaccinated, and more employees continue to schedule their appointments.

Thanks to the lowest positivity rate since it was measured in Chicago and Cook County, only non-vaccinated staff members are tested every other week. New employees are tested before they start work and offered the opportunity to be vaccinated. All employees, no matter their vaccination status, wear a mask.

New residents are tested when they are admitted. If unvaccinated, they will quarantine for 14 days and then tested monthly. All will be offered the opportunity to be vaccinated. We only will publish a report if someone has a positive result.

Mercy Circle continues to follow all infection control and prevention measures it has put in place to mitigate the spread of the virus.

Please call me at 773-253-3627 to share your suggestions as we brighten *Life with Spirit* in our community.

Best wishes,

Frances Lachowicz, Executive Director