



A Senior Care Community

**Home**  
24 8th Street NW  
Rochester, MN 55901  
(entrance on 7th Street)  
P: 507.289.4031

[www.samaritanbethany.com](http://www.samaritanbethany.com)

March 11, 2021

Dear Resident and Family Member of the Home on 8<sup>th</sup>,

We are very excited to share the news that we will soon be able to resume indoor visits, and we warmly welcome family and friends back. The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) and Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) have issued NEW guidance on how we can safely re-open to visitors and continue to protect the health of our residents and staff. The guidance does not only apply to our ability to resume visits but also identifies when we may need to restrict visits. We expect visits to resume on Saturday, March 13, 2021.

*The NEW guidance alters when visitation would need to be suspended. If 1 new case of COVID-19 is identified with a staff member or resident, we still need to suspend visitation but only for 1 round of outbreak testing instead of 2 rounds. If the 1 round of testing reveals no new cases, visitation can resume for those residents in neighborhoods with no COVID-19 cases. The neighborhood with COVID-19 positive cases will need to conduct 2 rounds of outbreak testing until testing reveals no new cases. If the first round of outbreak testing reveals one or more additional COVID-19 cases in other areas/neighborhoods then we will need to suspend visitation for all residents (vaccinated and unvaccinated), until we meet the criteria to discontinue outbreak testing.*

Indoor visits will be scheduled through an online system. Please visit the following link to make a reservation <https://ccs-reservation.na.rapidbiz.com/> and this PIN number to complete the reservation: 50683. Once the reservation is approved, the visitor will receive a confirmation email. If you do not receive a confirmation email within a few minutes, please check your junk or spam folders.

Guidelines for indoor visits include:

- Each visitor will need to complete and pass a screen for signs and symptoms of COVID-19 including a temperature reading at the front desk.
- Each visitor will be asked to sign in and out at the front desk and review the visit and infection control guidelines.
- Each visitor must wear a well-fitting face covering/mask (not provided by the facility) at all times during the visit.
- Each resident must wear a well-fitting mask during the visit.
- Each visitor must perform hand hygiene upon entering and exiting the building.
- Visits will occur in the resident's room or designated room on the neighborhood if the resident lives in a semi-private room.
- Visitors must take a straight path to the resident's room or designated room and minimize restroom use.
- Social distancing at least six feet between persons must be maintained.
- Physical contact is not permitted due to the risk of exposure.
- Visits will be scheduled for 1 hour time frames.
- Visits must be scheduled 24 hours in advance online.
- Each resident may have up to 2 different visitors per week based on schedule availability.
- Only one visitor per resident at a time with the exception of 1 child under the age of 18 accompanying the adult visitor. If the child is over 2 years of age, they must wear a face covering or mask.
- Visitors are not able to consume food or beverage during the visit. You are still able to bring food to drop off for your loved one to enjoy later.
- Pets are allowed to accompany the visitor during the visit, but must be on a leash.
- Residents placed on transmission-based precautions will not be able to have visitors during their 14 day quarantine period.



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Failure to follow the above guidelines may result in early termination or future suspension of visits.

Weekly available times are as follows:

- Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday
  - 10:30a – 11:30a
  - 12:00p – 1:00p
  - 4:30p – 5:30p
  - 6:00p – 7:00p
- Saturday
  - 9:00a – 10:00a
  - 10:30a – 11:30a
  - 12:00p – 1:00p
  - 1:30p – 2:30p
- We will monitor these times and make adjustments as needed.

Below are factors that may cause us to suspend indoor visits:

- We experience a positive case of COVID-19 among the residents or staff as discussed in the second paragraph.
- Compromised staffing levels.
- Other factors that affect the safety of visitation that may arise.

We deeply appreciate the sacrifices you made to limit the impact of COVID-19 on our community and your patience as we prepare to host safe visits and other activities. Our entire team looks forward to seeing you again!

Thank you again for being partners with us in fighting the COVID-19 virus. Your messages of support, prayers, and caring will not be forgotten. There may be more challenges ahead, and we may need to make adjustments as we roll-out our plan. Please do not hesitate to reach out to me at 507-424-4041 or [kberg@samaritanbethany.com](mailto:kberg@samaritanbethany.com) if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Kyla Berg  
Community Leader – Home on 8<sup>th</sup>