



September 8, 2020

Dear Smith Village Family,

I am pleased to report Smith Village continues to meet all criteria to be named a CMS Phase Three community, the highest ranking.

Two factors affect this status and our ability to reopen more opportunities to spend time together and to take advantage of amenities, programs and services:

- Smith Village must sustain our 102-day track record of no new cases of COVID-19 among assisted living, memory care and skilled nursing care residents on our campus.
- If Chicago, Region 11 in the current Restore Illinois plan, experiences over time an increase in positivity rates and hospital admissions as well as a decrease in the number of ICU beds available.

We appreciate how families and residents are working with us to ensure everyone follows the best practices for mitigating the spread of the virus.

Visitation program guidelines

Smith Village now can arrange indoor visits for skilled nursing care, assisted living and memory care residents in the Oakhaven assisted living wing. As weather cooperates, outdoor visits still are strongly preferred.

For both outdoor and indoor visits with skilled nursing care residents

- Family members should reserve visiting times 72 hours in advance by contacting Lisa Madsen at LMadsen@smithseniorliving.org or 773-474-7316
- We will move visits indoors if weather is inclement
- All indoor visits will be in the independent living lobby

For both outdoor and indoor visits with Oakhaven assisted living residents

- Family members should reserve visiting times at least 72 hours prior by contacting Meghan Maple at MMaple@SmithSeniorLiving.org
- Visits in residents' apartment are scheduled from 10am until 8pm
- If family members prefer, Meghan can schedule an outdoor visit

For both outdoor and indoor visits with independent living residents

- Residents continue to make their own plans with guests while complying with the guidelines for all residents
- Visits in residents' apartments are scheduled from 10am until 8pm

- The pub patio and Fitch Garden remain their designated outdoor areas

Visitors are required to

- Plan only one weekly visit per resident
- Limit guests to two people from the same household
- Comply with all CDC and Smith Village protocols before and during a visit
 - Complete all pre-screening and onsite screening before a visit
 - Wear their own face mask the entire time they are on campus
 - Observe six-foot social distancing in common areas and in apartments
 - Practice hand-hygiene
- Report any symptoms of COVID-19 during a three-day period after they are on our campus, to inform Smith Village to help us conduct contact tracing

If they experience symptoms during this three-day period, visitors for independent living residents should call the Receptionist at 773-474-7300.

Appointments for healthcare, visits to hot spots

We continue to advise against taking any trip not medically necessary, and may require precautions such as quarantine when a residents returns to Smith Village.

We also require all employees, residents and visitors, who visit States and Territories designated as hot spots for COVID-19 by Chicago, to self-quarantine for 14 days. The City updates this list on Tuesdays.

Activities, dining rooms, salons

It is wonderful to see residents enjoying meals together and pampering themselves with visits to our salons. Please encourage each other to sign-up for the numerous programs offered by our Life Enrichment team, too.

Testing

During the last seven days, Smith Village tested 123 staff members. One outcome is pending; 122 are confirmed negative. We also conducted monthly testing for 63 assisted living residents and all received negative results.

Today as a demonstration of support, the Chicago Department of Public Health is testing all employees, who never tested positive and work in skilled nursing care, memory support and assisted living, and all skilled nursing care residents.

On Wednesdays, we offer tests, which are not required, for independent living residents. Interested residents should contact the Receptionist at extension 7300.

Staff members are required to

- Be screened at the beginning of and during each shift
- Wear a face mask at all time
- Wash their hands on a very regular basis, including before and after helping a resident
- Practice social distancing except when their care for residents requires otherwise
- Disinfect areas as assigned

Please continue to share your suggestions and to ask questions by sending an email to COVID19SmithVillage@SmithSeniorLiving.org. A senior staff member, who monitors your messages, will ask the appropriate employee to respond to you.

We remain steadfast in following all of the directives by the Centers of Disease Control and Prevention, the Centers of Medicare and Medicaid Services, and the Chicago and Illinois Departments of Public Health.

As we continue to enjoy more ways to visit as well as more amenities, programs and services at Smith Village, it is essential we follow the simple practices that really make a difference. It is a testament to our community spirit that Smith Village's reopening program is moving forward so smoothly.

Very truly yours,



Marti Jatis
Executive Director

PS Next Tuesday, September 15, is the deadline for Smith Village residents, who prefer to vote by mail, to submit the form they have received. The 19th Ward has arranged for the League of Women Voters to pick-up all forms completed by residents and to drive them to the Chicago Board of Elections.