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*Integrity ♦ Passion ♦ Excellence ♦ Respect*

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To Our Residents and Family Members:

As you know, nursing homes have been severely impacted by COVID-19 across the country, with outbreaks causing increased rates of infection, morbidity, and mortality. The vulnerable nature of the nursing home population combined with inherent risks of congregate living in a healthcare setting have required aggressive efforts to limit COVID-19 exposure and to prevent the spread of COVID-19 within nursing homes. The governing agencies recognize the importance of addressing the psychosocial needs of residents however and have made changes to visitation guidelines.

We are pleased to announce that CMS recently released new guidance that will allow nursing homes to open for visitation during the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency (PHE). To ensure nursing home residents have the opportunity to visit with their loved ones in a safe, protective environment, Kissito Healthcare will be opening our facilities for visitation under the following guidelines that are consistent with CMS/CDS guidance.

The following guidance has been developed to reduce the risk of COVID-19 transmission:

- Screening of all individuals who wish to visit with a resident for signs and symptoms of COVID-19. Individuals must pass the screening questionnaire before the visitation is permitted. Kissito Healthcare facilities have the right to deny visitation to anyone with signs and symptoms of any type of illness.
- Visitation is by appointment. Please contact the facility directly attention: Jaslyn Dillard or Teresa Reynolds to schedule an appointment for visitation.
- Visitation will be limited to 30 minutes and only 2 visitors per resident. Visitation will take place in a designated location (outdoor/indoor) -outdoor preferred.
- Infection control practices must be strictly adhered to, including hand hygiene, social distancing of 6 feet and face covers are to be worn at all times during the visits. Anyone unable to adhere to the infection control practices or understand these practices will not be allowed to visit.
- Visitation protocols are subject to change based on any new onset of COVID-19 cases and County positivity rate, or changes to CMS/CDC guidance.

These core principles are consistent with the CDC guidance for nursing homes and should be adhered to at all times. Currently, we are in the final planning stages of opening our facilities for visitation. Please contact our Center directly to schedule visitation. We are excited to be progressing through the stages of reopening, and plan to do so in a safe and protective manner. Should you have any questions please contact us directly.

Sincerely,

Bob Nelson

Chief Administrative Officer