Visitors for residents of The Lighthouse, Inc. (Indoors) Established for Pandemic Crisis 2020

Effective October 26, 2020 in accordance with

MDHHS order of October 21, 2020

**Policy:** In order to facilitate visits for the residents of The Lighthouse, effective October 26 , 2020, visitors will be allowed the opportunity to visit with the residents, in indoor locations in accordance with the MDHHS Emergency Order enacted by Director Robert Gordon. All provisions of this order are incorporated into the Lighthouse visitor policy for indoor visits until this Emergency Order is lifted.

Effective October 26, 2020 and until further notice, the following procedures will be in place for all indoor visits at The Lighthouse:

* The Lighthouse will permit indoor and outdoor visits on The Lighthouse campuses.
* Indoor visits will be conducted in Lighthouse buildings that are well ventilated and allow sufficient room for social distancing. To ensure the safety of all residents, indoor visits will not occur in the AFC homes where other residents are present.
* Home visits are not recommended at this time by the Tuscola and Grand Traverse County Health Departments.

**Procedure:**

1. Indoor and outdoor visits on Lighthouse campuses are allowed when The Lighthouse has had no new COVID cases originate in the facility for residents or staff within the prior 14 days, and the local health department has not determined the facility is unsafe for visits due to local community COVID conditions. In addition, indoor visits can occur when the facility is in a county where the current risk level on the Mi Safe Start Map is low, A, B, C, or D. **When the county risk level is a level E only outdoor visits will be permitted.**
2. Before offering indoor visits, The Lighthouse will ensure:
* The indoor visiting area allows for 6 feet between all persons. Tables are recommended as a barrier to ensure proper distancing. Tables and chairs will be disinfected after each visit.
* The inside visiting area will be in a well ventilated area and away from any other residents.
* A staff member trained in infection control, will observe the visit to offer assistance as needed, assure compliance with safety regulations and disinfect the area after the visit is completed.
1. If any person would like to have an on campus indoor visit with a resident at The Lighthouse, they must call the resident’s home and set up an appointment to do the on campus visit. Appointments are required to ensure that we can provide adequate space for social distancing and designate an area away from all other home residents. Only one set of visitors indoor visiting location is allowed at any given time due to the need for distancing to reduce the risk of possible transmission. Visits will be allowed for up to 45 minutes, to provide time for disinfecting, and allowing other residents to have visitors can occur.

 \*Please note, only individuals who are listed as allowed to visit a resident on their approved contact sheet will be allowed to visit.

1. **The number of visitors allowed per scheduled visit is two or fewer.**
2. Visitors will need to wear a face covering for the duration of their visit and follow good hand hygiene. **Visitors who are unable or unwilling to follow these regulations will not be allowed to visit in person.** They will be offered continued video visit opportunities.
3. Due to MDHHS regulations, The Lighthouse will keep a log that documents each visitor’s arrival and departure time as well as their contact information. Visitors will need to sign a form that states their agreement to notify The Lighthouse if they develop symptoms consistent with COVID 19 within 14 days of visiting.

**Due to MDHHS regulations in** section 2(c)(3) which provides the following statement: “In facilities with a MDHHS-required resident and staff testing regimen, require the testing of visitors, in accordance with section 3 of this order;” **Since The Lighthouse does not fall into the referenced category, testing for visitors prior to doing an indoor visit with a Lighthouse resident is not required.**

1. At the time of the visit – the visitor should call the home when they arrive on campus at the designated building. Visitors remain in their vehicle until the staff from the home come out to conduct a health screening for them. Designated staff from the home will conduct a health screening of the visitor including symptoms check, recent contact with a person who has tested positive and a temperature check. Visitors who do not meet the health screening guidelines per MDHHS regulations will not be able to visit. Temperature of 100.0 F or above, symptoms consistent with COVID 19, or recent known exposure would result in visitor not being able to visit. Visitors will be advised that only one entry is available for the building g to ensure that proper screening is conducted prior to the visit.
2. The Lighthouse will have signs posted at the entrances to the visiting areas that visitors will need to be screened for symptoms of COVID19 and for visitors with symptoms to not enter the visiting area.
3. The Lighthouse will make hand sanitizer available for visitors and post educational materials on proper hand washing and sanitization.
4. The Lighthouse will ensure that there are enough staff available to assist with transporting residents to and from visits, monitoring visits and to disinfect surfaces after the visits are completed.
5. Once the visitor has been screened, they will be allowed to meet with the resident at the indoor visiting area. The resident and the visitors are required to wear face masks for the duration of the visit. Social distancing is required by MDHHS order and visitors are required to refrain from any physical contact with residents and employees.
6. Visitors are not allowed to be present during aerosol generating procedures such as airway suctioning, oral care, nebulizer treatments, cough assist treatments etc.
7. **Visitors and residents are not able to share food during the visit.**
8. Any items brought by the visitor for the resident will need to be properly disinfected and/or washed prior to the resident receiving the item.
9. There will be indoor bathroom facilities available at the visiting sites.
10. After the visit, the area where the visit took place will be disinfected by the designated staff from the resident’s home.
11. Any resident that is in isolation or otherwise under observation for COVID 19 symptoms is ineligible for in person visits. Video visits will be offered in these circumstances.
12. The Lighthouse will communicate with residents and their guardians to inform them of these updated visitation protocols.

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