

Updated May 22, 2020

To our valued residents, families, and loved ones:

By now, you have likely heard that the Wisconsin Supreme Court on May 13 overturned Wisconsin's "Safer at Home" Order, which had prohibited many businesses – like restaurants, nonessential retail stores, and bars – from allowing customers to enter their premises. Those businesses are now able to begin reopening, unless a local county/municipal order dictates they remain closed.

This communication is to notify families that a **federal directive to restrict visitation at nursing facilities remains active**. The federal directive is not affected by the Wisconsin Supreme Court decision. The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) issued a [formal memo](#) on March 13 related to restricting visitation in nursing homes, except for certain compassionate care situations, such as end-of-life situations.

We at Sun Prairie Health Care Center are doing as much as we can to prevent the spread of COVID-19, a virus which poses serious health risks to frail elderly residents. We know that the current federal directive on visitation is difficult, but right now, these interventions are needed to slow the spread of COVID-19 to vulnerable nursing home residents.

The entire team here at Sun Prairie Health Care Center has taken on the important and noble task of caring for vulnerable elderly and disabled members of our community. Frail elders have a significantly increased health risk if they are exposed to COVID-19. We take this responsibility very seriously. We here at Sun Prairie Health Care Center are working diligently and have consistently followed the requirements set forth by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS).

During this unprecedented time, the overall wellness of our residents and staff is of tantamount importance. In early March, we began introducing precautions at Sun Prairie Health Care Center that were designed to limit exposure to COVID-19 before DHS issued the "Safer at Home" order. We have been carefully monitoring our residents and staff since then. In the event we have a resident or employee test positive for COVID-19, we would expect to conduct facility wide testing.

Please know that we are here to support our wonderful residents, their families, and their friends. We will continue to find ways to help you have meaningful interactions with your loved one.

If you have additional questions, we encourage you to contact Susan Ohm or Mona Onsager.

Sincerely,

Susan Ohm

608.837.5959

Updated April 17, 2020

Hello Family and Friends,

We here at Sun Prairie Health Care Center sincerely hope you are doing well, safe, and healthy.

Please continue to follow the links posted here for the most recent COVID-19 updates. The last few weeks we have been keeping our population engaged with a variety of social distancing entertainment. Hallway bingo has been a huge hit! We do a different theme day every week for residents and staff. We have also been exercising, doing crafts, playing tennis and soccer and everyone loves a great sing-along! We have also been sure to continue religious services by having tv's tuned into local services weekly.

All of us here would like to give a big shout out of thanks to all of you who have donated to our PPE supply. Thanks to family and friends that donated their talents to making us cloth masks for the staff. Also, a big thanks to those that have been writing letters, emails, and staying in touch via phone or Google Duo calls. We have seen some extremely grateful loved ones on this end, who thrive on those interactions. We encourage all of you to continue communicating through those means, as much as you can.

With the extension of "Safer at Home," we continue to follow all updated recommendations and guidelines of our governing bodies.

On behalf of administration and its staff, we miss the contact and traffic of all our families, friends, and volunteers. Please Stay Safe and Stay Healthy!

Updated April 13, 2020

We are offering to coordinate visits via Google Duo on many of our in house tablets and computers. Please call Social Services in advance and set up an appointment. Google Duo can be downloaded via the App Store or the Google Play Store. ****MUST BE DOWNLOADED PRIOR TO APPOINTMENT.** No international numbers are able to be accessed by the staff at Sun Prairie Health Care Center.

Updated March 20, 2020

Effective immediately, per the guidance of Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, Sun Prairie Health Care Center has made the following changes:

- Restricting all visitors, with exceptions for compassionate care, such as end-of-life situations
- Restricting all volunteers and non-essential health care personnel (e.g., barbers)
- Cancelling all group activities and communal dining in skilled nursing home
- Cancelling all group activities in the Independent and Assisted Living. It is recommended that Independent and Assisted Living residents do not congregate, if they choose to do so their group should not exceed 10 people

- Communal dining in the Independent and Assisted Living has been cancelled. All meal delivery fees are being waived at this time. If a resident chooses to dine in the dining room it is being highly recommended that they eat six feet apart from one another, i.e. one resident per table
- Implementing active screening of residents in the Skilled Nursing Home and employees for fever and respiratory symptoms community wide

Currently, Sun Prairie Health Care Center does not have any diagnosed cases of residents or employees infected with the Coronavirus (COVID-19). Our team is closely monitoring our community for any sign of the virus and we are providing education and resources to our residents and employees. The health of our residents and employees is our number one priority.

Each year, we prepare for and, if necessary, treat a variety of infectious diseases, such as influenza and respiratory illnesses. If an outbreak occurs, we follow the recommendations of the local health department and Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC) as well as work with our physicians and medical director.

This is a fast-changing situation, and Sun Prairie Health Care Center's leadership is closely monitoring guidance and recommendations provided by CMS and CDC.

For the most current set of preventative measures from the Wisconsin Department of Health Services visit: <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/index.htm>