

# OUR LADY OF PEACE HOME

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**PATIENT CARE POLICIES AND PROCEDURES**

**POLICY: VISITORS**

**DATE: June, 2020**

## **POLICY STATEMENT:**

Our Lady of Peace Home (OLPH) recognizes the need to mitigate the risk to patients, staff and visitors from contracting the Corona virus in the facility. OLPH also recognizes that many patients wish to see their loved ones during their stay at OLPH. To accommodate both the need for safety and patient wishes, OLPH currently prohibits visitors except on a limited basis daily from 12 noon to 4 p.m. and at the very end of life. Two properly screened visitors over the age of 16 may visit each patient during imminent death situations and at any one time during the four-hour visiting period. No more than four total visitors per patient, two at any one time, may visit during the entire four-hour period. If a patient's imminent death begins while visitors are already in the patient's room, the visitors must leave when the two visitors arrive who were designated to visit during the patient's imminent death, unless they are the same people who are already visiting. This policy is subject to change as circumstances warrant.

## **PROCEDURES:**

1. Prior to admission, each patient or their health care agent will inform Admitting Staff of the names and telephone numbers of no more than two persons they wish to visit them when their death is imminent. Admitting staff will forward these names to Charge Nurses and Receptionists.
2. At admission, patient and/or responsible party will be given this policy and the form COVID-19: Screening Questions and Checklist for Visitor Entry.
3. The Charge Nurse of the Floor on which the patient is cared for will contact the designated visitors when the patient's death appears imminent.
4. Visitors must come to the Front Entrance of Our Lady of Peace Home and use the Intercom to announce their arrival and say whom they are here to visit. Both visitors are asked to please arrive simultaneously.
5. Visitors may only bring small items such as a small purse and cell phone but no food or beverage items.
6. Designated staff, wearing appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), will meet the visitors at the Front Entrance and admit them to the vestibule inside the Front Entrance.
7. Staff will instruct visitors there to wash their hands using supplied hand sanitizer and don supplied PPE to the satisfaction of Staff.
8. Staff will next have visitors certify on a designated form that they have no known symptoms of Covid-19.
9. Any visitor who answers affirmatively to any question regarding known symptoms of Covid-19 must immediately leave the premises.
10. After visitors certify that they have no known Covid-19 symptoms, they must allow staff to ascertain that visitors' temperatures are below 100 degrees Fahrenheit. Any visitor with a temperature of 100 degrees Fahrenheit or higher must immediately leave the facility.
11. Visitors without elevated temperatures and no known symptoms will receive this policy from staff. Staff will then escort visitors to the room of the patient whom they came to visit.
12. Visitors will be restricted to the room of their patient while in the facility. The only exceptions to this restriction is use of the Visitors Only Rest Rooms or during patient care to a designated waiting area. First Floor for visitors must only use the First Floor Visitors Only rest room. Second Floor visitors must only use the Second Floor Visitors Only restroom.
13. Visitors who leave the facility for any reason will not be re-admitted until the next day unless the Charge Nurse approves them for re-entry due to extenuating circumstances.
14. Staff will offer Visitors who must stay longer than four hours light meals.
15. Visitors who remove masks or violate this policy in any way must immediately leave the premises. Staff will notify St. Paul Police of any visitor out of compliance with this policy who refuses to leave.