We’re excited to share that both CMS and WA State Safe Start for Long Term Care have modified their visitation guidelines effective February 23, 2022. Below is a summary of the major changes:

What is staying the same?
- Visitors must sign in at the entrance to the facility and provide contact information.
- Visitors must be screened prior to entering the facility for signs and symptoms of COVID-19. Any items of concern for illness or exposure found during screening will result in restriction from visitation.
- Visitors must attest to COVID-19 status if known.
- Visitors and residents must use alcohol-based hand rub or wash hands with soap and water before and after each visit.
- Visitation, except for compassionate care and Essential Support Persons, may be restricted or paused if there is an outbreak or other clinical issue. We will follow guidance from the local health jurisdiction when making these decisions.
- Residents and visitors must wear well-fitting masks or respirators as source control while in communal areas and while in a resident’s room if a roommate is present.
- Visitors should go directly to the visiting area and directly out of the facility when the visit has ended.

What is changing?
- Visitors must sign the new Visitor Agreement.
- Visits no longer need to be scheduled in advance and multiple visitors can attend, including children, as long as physical distancing can be maintained. If we determine that we have too many visitors at a given time, making physical distancing impossible, we may have to restructure this visitation policy.
- Residents and visitors may dine together, either in the resident’s room or in the dining area if physical distancing (6’ apart) can be maintained between other residents. Visitors must wear masks when not eating or drinking.
- When visiting in a resident room when a roommate is not present, both the visitors and the resident may choose to remove masks. (We do strongly recommend that you leave them on though!) If a roommate is present, visitors must keep masks on.
- We are committed to keeping our residents safe and we need your help. The virus causing Coronavirus Disease 2019 (abbreviated COVID-19) can cause outbreaks in long-term care facilities and residential homes. Many of our residents are in the high-risk group for COVID-19 and may have medical conditions putting them at a very high risk of becoming sick, or even severely ill, with COVID-19. While the risk of COVID-19 is significantly decreased for both residents and visitors if up to date with COVID-19 vaccines, the risk is not eliminated.
• For the safety of your loved one and our community, visitors must adhere to core infection prevention while inside the facility. Visiting outdoors is safer and preferred to indoor visitation.

• During times of increased visitation, such as holidays, facilities may have procedures in place to manage visitation and visitor flow, so these core infection prevention principles are maintained. This may include limiting the number of visitors per resident at one time or limiting the total number of visitors in the facility at one time.

Thank you for helping us keep our community and residents safe.

☐ I have read and agree to comply with the above requirements for visitation.

PRINT NAME ___________________________________________________

SIGNATURE ____________________________________________________

ADDRESS_______________________________________________________

PHONE NUMBER______________________EMAIL____________________________

DATE______________ RESIDENT’S NAME____________________________________

☐ Visitor training/information on the proper use of PPE was provided. The risks associated with visitation were explained to the resident and their visitors so they can make an informed decision about participation. The date of the training/information and signature of the staff who provided the training/information will be on the visit agreement form.

DATE______________ STAFF SIGNATURE _____________________________________________

STAFF PRINT NAME________________________