



- Skilled Nursing Facility
- Rothenberg Building
- Eva & Morris Feld Tower
- Gallen Institute for Subacute Care
- B.I. Cohen Family Building
- Memory Care Pavilion
- Esther & Sam Schwartz Building
- Respite Care Program

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## UPDATED VISITATION POLICY FROM DAUGHTERS OF MIRIAM CENTER

Daughters of Miriam Center/The Gallen Institute announces a new Patient-Centered Visitation guidance, which will take effect next week. Please click on this page to visit our website and then click on “COVID-19 Update” on the upper right to view the full guidance. Please note that all visitation is by appointment only and an informed consent document (download from the website) must be signed and in place prior to scheduling any appointments. Appointments will be scheduled through the Activities Department, as outlined in the guidance.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to reach out to the Director of Social Services, Myrna Gomez, at 973-253-5233 or via email at [mgomez@daughtersofmiriamcenter.org](mailto:mgomez@daughtersofmiriamcenter.org).

Sincerely,  
Frank DaSilva  
CEO  
Daughters of Miriam Center

## **Patient-Centered Visitation Guidelines** **Effective October 12, 2020**

Public health experts have determined patient-centered visitation is safe when certain precautions, such as social distancing and face coverings, are strictly followed for the safety of all residents, visitors, and staff. The purpose of this document, therefore, is to provide the public with DMC's guidance on visitation with nursing home residents during the COVID-19 pandemic while adhering to recommended Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and New Jersey Department of Public Health guidelines.

### **Visitor Screening**

- All visitors will be screened prior to visiting with a resident. Visitors are not permitted to visit if they have symptoms of COVID-19, including fever, cough, shortness of breath, sore throat, muscle pain, chills, or new loss of taste or smell. Anyone with a fever (100F or higher) will not be permitted to visit.
- Visitors are not permitted to visit if they have tested positive for COVID-19 in the past 7 days or if they have been ordered by a health care professional or public health official to quarantine due to exposure.
- Any individual who participates in a visitation and develops signs and symptoms of COVID-19 such as fever, cough, shortness of breath, sore throat, muscle pain, chills, or new onset loss of smell or taste within 14 days after the visitation must immediately notify the Director of Nursing at 973-253-5745 of the date they were on site and with whom they were in contact with.

### **Designated Visitation Area – MARCUS AUDITORIUM**

**PLEASE USE THE MAIN ENTRANCE TO PARK. WHILE WAITING IN YOUR PARKED VEHICLE ANNOUNCE YOUR ARRIVAL BY DAILING 973-772-3700 (OPTION 4) AND AWAIT FURTHER INSTRUCTIONS.**

- Once residents are in the auditorium, visitors will be able to enter the building.
- Food and/or drink will not be permitted during the visit.
- Visitors will be escorted to the resident's assigned table.
- Visitors will not be allowed entry beyond the main lobby and the Marcus Auditorium for any reason.

### **Limitations on Visitors**

- Visits will be limited to 1-2 visitors at a time per resident for individuals 18 years and older.
- Children and at-risk individuals are strongly encouraged to remain home.
- Celebration parties and pets are prohibited.

### **Face Coverings**

- During the visit, all visitors and staff are required to wear a face covering/mask, covering their mouth and nose, and must bring their own face covering, in order to preserve the home's PPE supply.
- Residents will also be encouraged to wear face coverings to the extent they can do so safely.

### **Social Distancing and Supervision**

- Visitors and residents must follow social distancing guidelines and remain 6 feet apart. No physical contact.
- A DMC staff member trained in resident safety and infection control measures will remain with the resident at all times during the visit. Scheduling Visits in Advance by Appointment. Informed Consents are required prior to scheduling an appointment.
- DMC may limit the length of any visit, the days on which visits will be permitted, the hours during a day when visits will be permitted, and the number of times during a day or week a resident may be visited.

### **Scheduling Visits in Advance by Appointment**

- Visitation is Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday at 11:00am and 6:30pm.
- Visits must be scheduled in advance by calling the Activities Department at 973-253-5290 to allow coordination with others that may also want to visit and to ensure appropriate staffing levels.
- Visits will be limited to no more than 30 minutes to limit exposure and to ensure that staff can assist with the visit.
- Advance notification may ensure the resident is not under quarantine and that the individual served can be emotionally prepared for the visit.
- A log of all visitors, including name, date of visit, and staff on shift will be maintained.

### **Isolated Residents**

- Visitations will not be permitted with anyone who is currently under isolation because they are presumed or confirmed COVID-19 positive.
- DMC will continue to support alternative electronic methods for communication between residents and visitors, such as Skype or FaceTime for residents who remain in isolation.

### **Other Considerations**

- Visitors understand that these visits create possible danger of exposure to COVID-19 and agree to abide by these visitation guidelines. Failure to adhere to these guidelines may require the termination of a visit and may result in a temporary ban on visitation.
- DMC reserves the right to change this policy with little notice and as needed and reserves the right to prohibit visitation on a case-by-case basis, if it is determined visitation cannot be safely accommodated.

**COVID-19 INFORMED CONSENT FORM**  
**PATIENT CENTERED VISITATION**

Below is Daughters of Miriam Center's (DMC's) informed consent which must be completed and emailed to [kmattis@daughtersofmiriamcenter.org](mailto:kmattis@daughtersofmiriamcenter.org), Activities Department, prior to participating in patient centered visitation. If you are the authorized representative for your relative, please sign in both the representative and visitor areas below. If not, one form must be completed for each visitor. Please refer to the Patient Centered Visitation guidelines for full further guidance.

- One to two visitors at a time will be permitted into the building.
- Visitation will be limited to 30 minutes at 11 AM and 6:30 PM, Monday through Thursday.
- A COVID-19 Informed Consent form must be completed and signed prior to visiting.
- All visitors must sanitize their hands upon prior to visitation.
- Each visitor should be mindful of proper safety protocols for their own protection and practice social distancing of 6ft.
- Emergency priority contacts (typically the first and second names listed on the patient's profile) will be given priority for visitation.
- Visitors will be screened at each visit and questioned about their health; anyone with any symptoms of illness must **NOT** enter facility.
- During the visit, all visitors and staff are required to wear a face covering/mask, covering their mouth and nose. Residents will also be encouraged to wear face coverings to the extent they can do so safely.
- Visitors and residents must follow social distancing guidelines and remain 6 feet apart.

I, \_\_\_\_\_ (*resident or visitor name*), understand the novel coronavirus, COVID-19, has been declared a worldwide pandemic by the World Health Organization. Furthermore, resident and visitors understand COVID-19 is extremely contagious, and, as a result, federal and state health agencies recommend social distancing. Given the nature of the COVID-19 virus, resident and visitors understand there is an inherent risk of becoming infected with COVID-19 by virtue of proceeding with this elective Visit.

Resident and Visitor acknowledge the existence of the COVID-19 virus, the dangers of the virus, and the potential exposure to the virus that could occur as a result of participating in a Visit at Daughters of Miriam. Resident and Visitors hereby acknowledge and assume the risk of becoming infected with COVID-19 through this elective Visit and choose to participate in same. Resident and Visitors hereby acknowledge that an infection with COVID-19 could result in severe illness, up to and including, death.

Resident and Visitors represent that Resident and Visitors, each member of their respective households and immediate families, to the best of their knowledge, have not tested positive or shown signs of COVID-19, have not been in contact with any person in the past 14 days who has tested positive for COVID-19 or is waiting for results of a test for COVID-19, and have not within the last 14 days arrived from or been in contact with someone who has travelled abroad or to states identified by the NJ travel advisory board. Visitors and Resident agree to notify the Director of Nursing, Candace Wishbow-Leto at 973-253-5745 immediately by phone and in writing if there is any change in this representation at any time up to 14 days after visitation.

**RESIDENT AND VISITORS AGREE TO HOLD HARMLESS, RELEASE, AND INDEMNIFY DAUGHTERS OF MIRIAM AND ITS EMPLOYEES, AGENTS, AND REPRESENTATIVES FOR ANY EXPOSURE TO, OR LAWSUIT, OR OTHER CLAIM BY ANYONE AS A RESULT OF THE COVID-19 VIRUS CAUSING INJURY, ILLNESS, OR OTHER DAMAGES ARISING FROM THE VISIT.**

**I AGREE TO FOLLOW ALL RULES OF VISITATION AT DMC. FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH THESE POLICIES WILL RESULT IN MY BEING DENIED PARTICIPATION IN VISITATION, AND ASKED TO IMMEDIATELY LEAVE THE PREMISES.**

_____	_____	_____
Authorized Representative Name	Visitor Name	Administrator/Designee Name
_____	_____	_____
Dated	Dated	Dated