



December 3, 2021

Dear Friends,

Givens Estates continues to monitor the level of COVID activity on campus and in the broader Asheville area. We continue with the testing of residents and team members in GEHC and WAL in addition to testing of individuals across campus that have symptoms. From recent testing this week we have not identified any new cases among team members or residents. We are currently seeing an increasing number of individuals with other respiratory type illnesses which are typical during Winter and the Holidays.

On November 30, 2021, Buncombe County extended the indoor mask requirement for public spaces through January 5, 2022. This is because COVID-19 case rates continue to be stubbornly high and the County remains an area of high transmission per the CDC definition. Total cases and percent positivity are rising in Buncombe County. The local case rate has increased from 121 to 132 per 100,000 over the past week. The positivity rate has increased from 4.4% to 6.0% over the past two weeks.

Givens Estates requires everyone to wear a mask when in public spaces, when participating in programs and activities, and in the dining rooms when not seated at a table. Continue to be vigilant in following the other COVID prevention measures which include maintaining physical distance between yourself and others of at least 6 feet, practicing good hand hygiene, and staying home when sick. Please make sure your guests follow these guidelines and remember that guests are only permitted in dining areas and not in the wellness center or programs at this time. If you develop any symptoms or suspect you have been exposed, please immediately self-isolate at home and telephone us for help with testing.

The regulatory guidance for visitation in GEHC and WAL has been modified to be more flexible. The updated federal guidelines no longer require us to stop visitation because of COVID cases. Residents may have a visitor at any time of their choosing, and we will honor their right to allow visitors as they desire. We continue to ask that every visitor use discretion in choosing when and whom to visit, and we encourage limiting length of visits. There are also some precautions noted on the back of this letter that must remain in place. These precautions are a positive step toward ensuring all residents' right to visitation, while providing a necessary layer of protection to safeguard all of those living and working at Givens Estates.

Givens Estates continues to move forward even as new COVID variants are identified. We have tools to combat the virus including vaccines, physical distancing, good hand hygiene, testing, and treatments. Please use these measures during the Holidays to minimize infections and disruptions to our daily lives.

Please contact me or any of my colleagues if you have a question or concern that we can assist you with.

2360 Sweeten Creek Road
Asheville, North Carolina
28803

(828) 274-4800
(828) 771-2232 Fax

givensestates.org

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John C. Cowan, Jr." in a cursive style.

John C. Cowan, Jr.

Executive Director

Current Requirements for Visitation at GEHC and WAL:

- The Resident Being Visited will have their choices honored as to when or if they allow a visitor.
- All Visitors must screen in and out at the main entrance. (Badge should be always visible)
- Visitors must wear a mask in any common areas of the facility.
- Visitors may NOT be around other residents or staff, except in passing.
 - This ALLOWS visitors to go outside with a resident when they remain physically distanced from other residents.
 - This DOES NOT ALLOW visitors to join group activities or be in dining rooms.
- Visitation must occur in the Resident's room or other private area.
- Any resident may allow their visitors to remove masks in their room.
 - This IS NOT recommended for Un-Vaccinated Residents.
 - This ALLOWS a visitor to dine with a resident in a private space.
 - This DOES NOT ALLOW visitors to be unmasked in public areas or be in group activities or dining.
- If the facility does NOT have active cases of Covid 19 doors will be unlocked during business hours, and visitors may enter and screen in
- If the Facility has active Cases of Covid 19:
 - Doors will be locked, signs posted instructing visitors to push the button to be let in
 - Visitors will be informed of the Covid in the facility by the team member
 - If they choose to visit, visitors will be let in by a team member to be screened.
- If a resident is Quarantined / Isolated due to any sickness
 - Clear Door Signage will instruct visitors to check in with a staff member before entering the room.