



September 30, 2020

To: Residents, families, and friends at TLC-Columbus

Re: Visitation

We have missed you!

We are ready to open for visitation within the guidelines set by the State of Texas. These guidelines are very specific and allow for designated “Essential Caregivers” and outside visitation.

TLC Columbus is applying for outside visitation rights from the State of Texas—and we will keep you posted on that progress. When this is approved, more folks can visit outside in a designated area. We are also hoping the state will approve inside visits, vehicle parades and open window visits.

However, we can begin “Essential Caregiver” visitation. Each resident can choose up to 2 people designated as essential caregivers. These caregivers will be able to visit the residents with no physical distancing required. This person can be a family member, a friend, a private personal caregiver, or court appointed guardian, who is at least 18 years old and has been designated by the resident or legal representative to provide care to a resident.

Essential caregivers will need to meet the following criteria:

- They must be chosen by the resident or responsible party/POA.
- Prior to the visit, caregivers must have a negative PCR or Antigen COVID 19 test result performed no more than 14 days before the first visit. The facility will not be able to provide these tests. The facility must receive a copy of this test, prior to the first visit.
- Only one essential caregiver at a time can visit.
- Essential caregivers must make appointments for visits. These visits will be limited to a maximum time of 2 hours.
- Essential caregivers will be escorted in and out of a resident’s room by staff. The Caregiver cannot intermingle with other residents and must limit movement only to and from the resident’s room.
- Essential caregivers must be screened for temperature and other signs and symptoms of COVID 19 and will need to demonstrate appropriate hand hygiene.
- Essential caregivers will be trained on infection control, appropriate PPE, handwashing, and proper etiquette for visitation (ex: going directly to patient’s room). This would include, at a minimum, a surgical face mask to be worn over the mouth and nose at all times. A cloth mask is not acceptable.



- Essential caregivers will be required to provide their own mask (cannot be a cloth mask) and either face shield or goggles. Both of these will need to be approved by the facility. The facility cannot provide this PPE, as we need to make sure we have adequate supplies for our residents and staff to continue to care for your loved one. Please note that depending on the circumstances in our facility, the current requirements could change. One thing that could change would be the type of mask required. In this event, you may be required to wear an N-95 mask to enter.
- Any illness or violation of what the facility deems as appropriate visitation behavior and adherence to proper infection control issues may result in removal from the facility.
- Caregivers can visit a resident unless the resident is confirmed COVID 19 positive.

Please notify the facility at (979) 733-0500 with the name of your designated “essential caregivers”. Appointments can also be taken at this phone number. Visitation hours will be from 10:00AM to 7:00PM, seven days a week.

We look forward to having visitors back in our facility. We have missed your smiling faces!

Sincerely,

Nosa Akpata, Administrator
832-929-5976