

HOSPICE Residence

Visiting Guidelines



Thursday, August 8, 2024

Dear Bethell Hospice Visitor,

COVID-19 virus continues to be a serious health threat to individuals in the population we serve. To ensure the health and safety of everyone who enters Bethell Hospice residence, we continue to follow Ministry guidelines and Public Health measures for high-risk settings. That said, we strongly believe that loved ones should surround individuals at end-of-life.

Every individual who enters the building must adhere to the following infection prevention and control practices. These are the current practices, but can change as required:

- **Screening:** Do not enter the building if you are feeling unwell in any way. Be honest in answering the screening questions at the front entrance. You are permitted access to the building after screening has been completed and passed.
- **Visitor in room Limits:** There is a limit of 4 people per resident allowed in the room at one time to accommodate care needs. The resident or substitute decision maker will determine who can visit the resident at Bethell Hospice.
- **Vaccinations:** Bethell Hospice encourages all visitors to keep up to date with recommended vaccinations.
- **Hand Hygiene:** Disinfect your hands using the alcohol-based hand rub often, especially upon entering the building, entering and exiting the resident's room, after using the bathroom etc.
- **Mask / Gown / Gloves use:** Bethell Hospice is a mask-friendly facility. Masks are available at entrances. At times you may be asked by the care team to wear other Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) if the situation warrants it. This may occur if contact or airborne precautions are required during isolation periods.
- **Eating and Drinking:** Eating and drinking is only permitted in the resident's room, not in common areas at this time.
- **Visiting Space:** You may bring along minimal personal items as well as food and stay with your loved one in their room at Bethell Hospice. The common areas that are open for use are the sunrooms in each wing, the hallways, library and kid's room. Opening the congregate dining areas will be considered when the risk of COVID transmission stabilizes.
- **Fire Safety:** On the back of resident room doors, please review the location of exits, fire alarm pulls and fire extinguishers. If you hear an alarm and are in a resident room, close all windows and doors, and await further direction.

- **Pets:** Cats and dogs are permitted in the hospice resident rooms as per the Pet Visitation Policy.
- **Pet Therapy** – Rebel is our Therapy dog and his handler is Mary. Please welcome them when they make their weekly visit.
- **Music Therapy and Music in the house:** We have a Music Therapist who is available to residents 2-3 times per month and have weekly volunteers who play piano/sing in the living room. Residents may choose to come or be moved to the dining room or just have their door open to enjoy a few tunes.
- **Smoking:** If you need to smoke, you must go to the end of the driveway to do so. There is NO SMOKING permitted on Bethell Hospice property.
- **Volunteers:** are a key part of the interdisciplinary team and will be on site for support.

On behalf of the entire Bethell Hospice team, we thank you for your understanding and cooperation while provide compassionate hospice palliative care. Any changes to these guidelines will be shared and change as we move toward having more spaces open to all. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us at any time.

Sincerely,



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