



March 15, 2021

Hello Residents, Public Guardians, and Families;

The Danish Home of Chicago is happy to announce that we are today moving to Phase III per the CDC Guidelines. Beginning Monday, March 15, 2021, Residents who live in the following apartments, may begin holding visits with family in their apartments. **The eligible apartments at The Danish Home are, Numbers: 108; 109; 114; 202-206; 205-207; 208; 213-215; 217-219; 224-226; 229-231; and 233-235.** All other resident visits will continue in the Living Room areas or outside. If your family member resides in Health Care, you are required to schedule a visit, by calling Debi or the Nurse's station. You will be called within 24 hours of your scheduled visit for the pre-screening. We added the second floor conference room for visits as well. Everything else remains the same as far as protocols.

As a reminder, visitors may only go directly to and from the resident apartment. You are not allowed to walk freely through the community. You are also required to check in at one of our kiosks located: 1) At the Hurlbut Street entrance at the top of the stairs by the Living Room Entrance; and, 2) attached to the wall entering Health Care on the first floor. The instructions for using the temperature kiosk are attached as a separate document to this email. Also, you will be asked an additional question in our kiosk *"Do you agree to immediately notify administration if you develop symptoms of COVID-19 within 3 days after visiting?"* This is essential to our diligence and effectiveness of keeping our community healthy. Make sure to call us if you develop symptoms after a visit.

Please be aware that residents are still not allowed to go out for social visits, but may attend a doctor or dentist appointment that is necessary. No resident will be required to quarantine if they go to a necessary medical appointment, if the resident is fully vaccinated.

The CDC, the City of Chicago, and IDPH still prefer outdoor visits, and we will continue to offer those when the weather permits. We have outdoor heaters which we will use when necessary.

From the CMS: "We acknowledge the toll that separation and isolation has taken. We also acknowledge that there is no substitute for physical contact, such as the warm embrace between a resident and their loved one. Therefore, if the resident is fully vaccinated, they can choose to have close contact (including touch) with their visitor while wearing a well-fitting face mask and

performing hand hygiene before and after. Regardless, visitors should physically distance from other residents and staff in the facility.” The Guidance is as follows:

Core Principles of COVID-19 Infection Prevention

- Screening of all who enter the facility for signs and symptoms of COVID-19 (e.g., temperature checks, questions about and observations of signs or symptoms), and denial of entry of those with signs or symptoms or those who have had close contact with someone with COVID-19 infection in the prior 14 days (regardless of the visitor’s vaccination status)
- Hand Hygiene (use of alcohol-based hand rum is preferred)
- Face covering or mask (covering mouth and nose)
- Social distancing at least six feet between persons
- Instructional signage throughout the facility and proper visitor education on COVID-19 signs and symptoms, infection control precautions, other applicable facility practices (e.g., use of face covering or mask, specified entries, exits and routes to designated areas, hand hygiene)
- Cleaning and disinfecting high-frequency touched surfaces in the facility often, and designated visitation areas after each visit.
- Appropriate staff use of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)
- Effective cohorting of residents (e.g., separate areas dedicated to COVID-19 care)
- Resident and staff testing conducted as required at 42 CFR, Sec.483.80(h), see QSO-20-38-NH)

Thank you again for trusting in The Danish Home to care for your loved one.

Sincerely,



Scott L. Swanson
President/CEO