



January 26, 2022

Dear Lions Gate Community Members,

We hope you had a good week!

We have been notified that 1 Skilled Nursing Resident and 1 staff member from Administration both fully vaccinated with the booster have tested positive for COVID-19. Per the new Centers for Medicare and Medicaid (CMS) regulations, visitation will **not** be paused at this time. We will be COVID-19 testing the residents and staff members who came into contact with the positive resident and staff member.

Due to the increase in COVID-19 positive cases, we have made the hard but necessary decision to hold off on re-opening the Independent Living Dining Room until MONDAY, JANUARY 31 2022. This will allow us to complete the required rounds of testing before we re-open the dining room to residents. Residents will continue to receive meals in their apartments until this date pending any further COVID infections.

As a reminder, Guests are to enter the community at the main entrance and get checked in and then go directly to the resident apartment. Please do not allow guests to enter into the Community by opening a side door. For your protection, we need to have all guest screened at the main entrance.

We continue to monitor NJ COVID-19 Activity Level Index (CALI). The CALI has increased to "Very High" for our region. Please do not let your guard down! **You should remain vigilant and regardless of vaccination status, please wear a mask in common areas, wash/sanitize your hands and practice social distancing.**

We have been and will continue to screen all of our employees, vendors, guests upon entry into the facility. We continue to provide employees and residents with proper PPE and have sufficient supply to continue to do so.

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DINING

We will be sending a new packet of dinner order forms. **The dining room will re-open on MONDAY, JANUARY 31st, 2022 pending any further positive COVID 19 cases.**

PRECAUTIONS

We require all residents to wear masks at all times when not inside their apartment. Please wear masks when in all common areas as well as when attending programs inside the community. If you have an aide please remember to wear a mask at all times. Please insist that the aide (or unvaccinated visitor) wear a mask when inside your apartment.

PRIVATE AIDES

Governor Phil Murphy announced on January 19th, 2022 that all staff members, private duty aides, volunteers, vendors and anyone providing direct care to residents not only have to be in compliance with the COVID-19 vaccination requirement, but are also required to have the **COVID-19 booster if they are eligible by February 28, 2022.**

- Staff members, private duty aides, volunteers, vendors, and anyone providing direct care to residents are required to have their first dose of a two dose COVID-19 vaccination series or the Janssen (J&J) COVID-19 vaccination by **January 27, 2022.**
- Staff members, private duty aides, volunteers, vendors, and anyone providing direct care to residents will have until **February 28, 2022** to have both doses of a 2 step COVID-19 vaccine series **and the booster if they are eligible.** Staff members are required to submit proof to the Wellness Nurse of having received all doses for which they were eligible. This is consistent with the CMS vaccination mandate and goes beyond the CMS vaccine mandate to include boosters.
- Staff members, private duty aides, volunteers, vendors, and anyone providing direct care to residents who have a valid medical or religious exemption will be required to undergo regular testing.
- Staff members, private duty aides, volunteers, vendors, and anyone providing direct care to residents without a valid medical or religious exemption will no longer be permitted to submit to testing as an alternative to vaccination.

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Fully vaccinated private aides are required to be tested weekly and will continue to be screened upon entry to the building. If a fully vaccinated private aide exhibits signs of COVID, they will be required to submit to a COVID test before being permitted to enter the community. Proof of vaccination is required. Aides are encouraged to provide a copy of their vaccination card to be kept on file at the concierge desk or they will be required to provide proof of vaccination each time they enter the community.

Unvaccinated private aides must be tested twice weekly due to the high/very high CALI score in the region. Unvaccinated aides must continue to enter through the employee entrance to be screened and continue to be tested on their current scheduled days.

VISITATION GUIDELINES

1. All visitors, regardless of vaccination status, must enter through the front door by the concierge desk to be screened. **Please do not enter through 1st floor patio doors without all guests being screened at the concierge desk, this puts your loved one and our other residents at risk.**
2. When visiting, please sanitize your hands, wear a mask at all times, and go directly to and from the apartment you are visiting.
3. ***Visitors are not required to be tested or vaccinated (or show proof as such) as a condition of visiting. If a visitor declines to disclose their vaccination status or is unvaccinated, the visitor should wear a mask or face covering at all times.***
4. Please wear a mask and practice social distancing while going to and from the residents' apartment that you are visiting.
5. Persons who test positive or are exhibiting signs of COVID will not be permitted to visit and must leave the premises immediately.

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Please see below updated COVID statistics from **December 10, 2021:**

- Current # COVID positive today
 - Residents from Independent Living 6
 - Residents from Assisted Living 0
 - Residents from Skilled Nursing 8
 - Residents from outside Lions Gate 2

- Cumulative Total # COVID positive Lions Gate residents 36

- Current # COVID positive employees 1
- Cumulative total COVID positive employee 59

- Cumulative total # of residents who passed away 1
- Cumulative total # of employees who passed away 0

We will continue to provide you with updates as they become available. Please know that we continue to strictly adhere to and follow infection control protocols and guidance from the CMS, CDC and the NJ Department of Health.

We thank you for your continued cooperation and support.

If you have any questions, please call the COVID Hotline at 856-679-4679 or email at lgadministrator@lionsgateccrc.org

Be Well and Be Safe!

Respectfully,
David Thompson
CEO

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