



April 30, 2021

Message to Duncaster Residents and Families

Michael A. O'Brien, President and CEO

The COVID-19 news in Connecticut continues to be encouraging. Connecticut reported its lowest COVID-19 positivity rate and fewest number of new cases in more than six months. In addition, hospitalizations continue to decrease. These are all very favorable trends and are monitored closely as we continue to reopen our community and ease restrictions.

Testing

Main Building

All staff members in the Main Building tested negative this week. All Independent Living residents tested negative on April 28th. All Assisted Living Residents (Thistle Way/Talcott Notch) tested negative this week.

Caleb Hitchcock Health Center

All staff are negative from this week's testing. All Dogwood Assisted Living residents are negative. Caleb Hitchcock Health Center residents were not tested this week as they are not in outbreak mode which requires weekly testing.

Effective immediately, DPH is changing the weekly testing requirements for the Caleb Hitchcock Health Center as follows:

- Fully vaccinated staff do not need to be tested weekly any more. They would need to be tested if they are symptomatic or have had a high risk exposure.
- Unvaccinated staff must be tested weekly.
- If in outbreak mode, all staff and residents need to be tested, PCR within 3 days and then 3 to 7 days after until no positive for 14 days.

Vaccination Status

At this time 99.5% of all residents are fully vaccinated. For staff 78% of our full time staff members are fully vaccinated.

Main Building-Community Life Update

See attached grid.

Caleb Hitchcock Health Center-Visitation

The Federal Government and CDC have opened visitation in nursing homes after a year of no visitors being allowed. To the extent that visitors and the resident are vaccinated, the new guideline states that they can visit without a mask and not distance. This is great news for our residents that are all fully vaccinated and their families. Visitation may take place without masking and without social distancing under the following circumstances:

- Both the resident and the visitor(s) are fully vaccinated.
- The resident and visitor(s) are alone in the resident's room or a designated visiting space where no one else is present.
- The visitor must mask and social distance from all other residents, staff, and visitors while in the nursing home.
- If a resident or any of the resident's visitors are not fully vaccinated, or if other residents, staff or visitor groups are present, masking and social distancing should be maintained throughout the visit.
- Nursing homes are not expected to obtain proof of vaccination of visitors, such as photo copies of vaccination cards. Asking a visitor about vaccination status is sufficient for determining masking and social distancing protocols during the visit.

Caleb Hitchcock Health Center-Activities and Dining

To the extent that staff conducting the group activity and all residents in the activity are vaccinated, they can be within 6 feet of one another and will not need to mask. After a year of no group activities, this is welcoming news for our residents and our life enrichment staff. Activities and dining may take place without masking and without social distancing under the following circumstances:

- All individuals present in the activity or dining area, including all residents, staff, and visitors, are fully vaccinated.
- If any individuals are present in the activity or dining area that are not fully vaccinated, masking and social distancing should be maintained throughout the activity and dining (masks may be removed when actively eating) for all individuals regardless of vaccination status.
- Vaccination status should be determined in a way that maintains the individual's privacy and dignity. CDC recommends asking residents, staff, and

visitors to sign up for activities / dining ahead of time so that vaccination status can be determined and appropriate decisions made. If vaccination status is unknown, protocols for “unvaccinated” individuals should be followed.

- Nursing homes are permitted to "cohort" activities and dining according to vaccination status. If choosing to do so, the nursing home must continue to comply with Resident Rights requirements.
- Staff may additionally follow the above guidance on masking and social distancing when in break rooms or in-person meetings. If all individuals present are fully-vaccinated, all individuals may forego masking and social distancing.

Thank you again for all you do to keep our community safe, for wearing your mask and for social distancing. While we are currently COVID-19 free we must continue to be strong and vigilant.

Be well and be safe.

DUNCASTER MAIN BUILDING PHASED REOPENING OF COMMUNITY LIFE

Community Life	Phase 4
Infection Prevention Masks, social distance, testing & handwashing	In place
Family/friend visitors	Maximum 4 visitors in resident apartments (with Covid-19 vaccination or PCR test within 7 day), no common spaces, must be over 16 years old.

	Gatherings of visitors under the discretion of resident and safe scheduling of management.
Overnight guests in apartments	Open but not encouraged
Guest Suites	Open May 1 st
Hair Salon Services	Open
Mail Room	Open Maximum of 3 people
Hearing Aid vendor	Open
Bank	TBD- Per Windsor Federal
Packages	Packages are delivered to apartment or you can pick up
Dining Room and Food Delivery	Dining Room open by reservations, maximum of 4-6 at a table Serving open for picking up meals Deliveries still available
Commons Market	Open Maximum of 4 people
Turn Over Shop	Open Maximum of 4 people
Green House	Open
Library	Open
Neighborhood Hallways	Open for gatherings of 6-8 residents in sitting areas
Residents in apartments	6-8 residents total in an apartment with social distance
Loggia	Maximum of 8 residents
Birch Grove Lounge	Maximum of 12-14 residents
Hartford HealthCare Medical Group	Open
Game Room	Maximum 6 Residents
Arts and Craft Rooms	Maximum of 8 Residents
Wood Shop	Maximum of 2 people
Hospitality room and Club room	Open, Maximum of 6 residents in the room at a time
Front of meeting Room	Maximum of 25 residents
Back of meeting Room	Maximum of 20 residents
Full Meeting Room	Maximum of 45 residents
External excursions/outings	Opened 3/15/21
Jigsaw puzzles	Open
Outside Drives to Medical Appointments	Essential Appointments Consider Telehealth
Dental Appt.	TBD
Podiatry Appt.	By Appointment
Therapy	Open
Fitness Center	2 residents at a time in the gym
Exercise classes	12-15 residents class in the meeting room
Pool & Hot Therapy Pool	Open 2 residents at a time with registration
Buddy System for Wellness checks	In place

May 1, 2021

Above guidance is subject to change based on CDC, DPH, community prevalence and state guidance.

