

Helen Purcell

Policies and Procedures

Department: Nursing

Subject: COVID-19 Resident Outings Policy

Date: 4/1/2021

Revised: 3/24/23

Policy Effective Date: **Immediately**

COVID-19 Resident Outings Policy

It is the policy of the Helen Purcell Home to strive to minimize and/or prevent the spread of the Coronavirus (COVID-19) through our facility. Helen Purcell is following the policies of the Ohio Department of Health and the recommendations of the Muskingum County Department of Health, the Center for Disease Control, and our Medical Director as they relate to Residential Care Facilities.

The following procedures are to be followed:

Family/Friends

1. Residents are permitted to leave the facility for medical visits or community outings with family or friends.
2. At any time, Muskingum County is placed in the "High" transmission of COVID-19 per CDC Guidelines all outings will be discouraged.
3. Residents who leave the facility will be educated on infection control procedures, as well as those taking them outside the facility; the importance of mask wearing, social distancing and regular hand hygiene.
4. In most circumstances, quarantine will not occur for those leaving the facility for medical visits or community outings with family or friends, as long as there is no close contact with an individual that has confirmed COVID-19. Each resident's situation will be evaluated by the facility for residents leaving the facility, based on an assessment of risk. If uncertainty exists about adherence to guidelines of infection control, by the resident or those, they are around then a 14-day quarantine will be implemented upon the resident returning.
5. If residents leave with family or friends, staff should ask them to let you know if anyone in their "party" contracts COVID within 14 days of their interaction.

Group Activity Outings

1. Residents and staff that leave the facility will be educated on infection control procedures, and the importance of mask wearing, social distancing and regular hand hygiene.
2. When going to a restaurant residents and staff are to wear masks in the building and are encouraged not to socialize with anyone not in their group, once seated they may remove their masks.
3. When residents and staff are on a shopping outing, masks are encouraged to be worn while shopping.
4. Residents participating in the group outing may choose to have close contact and not to wear a facial covering with those in their group during the outing.
5. Residents and staff should physically distance themselves from others that are not part of their group at all times while on an outing.