

**BY ORDER OF THE ST. CHARLES COUNTY
DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH**

RESIDENTIAL CARE FACILITY AND NURSING HOME ORDER

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, a state of emergency was declared in St. Charles County relating to the immediate and significant risk posed to the health, safety, and wellbeing of the people of St. Charles County that is presented by COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, the guidance of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention of the United States Department of Health and Human Services (the "CDC") is that there should be policies and practices in place for nursing homes and long-term care facilities to minimize exposure to COVID-19 and protect vulnerable populations and healthcare workers from contracting this disease; and

WHEREAS, the CDC is urging that nursing homes and other long-term care facilities take steps to assess and improve their preparedness for responding to COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, the CDC's guidance is not intended to supersede the advice of local public health officials; and

WHEREAS, given that nursing homes and long-care facilities are by nature congregate communities and given that the residents served by these facilities are often adults with underlying chronic medical conditions and therefore at increased risk of serious illness; and

WHEREAS, to minimize the morbidity and mortality caused by COVID-19, nursing homes and long-care facilities should follow CDC guidance to reduce the spread within the facilities; and

WHEREAS, this Order is authorized pursuant to §§192.006, 192.200, and 192.300 of the Revised Statutes of Missouri; 19 CSR 20-20.040 and 19 CSR 20-20.050 of the Rules of the Department of Health and Senior Services and by certain Executive Orders, as may be further amended.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, DEMETRIUS CIANCI-CHAPMAN, DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH OF ST. CHARLES COUNTY, MISSOURI, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and the Laws of the State of Missouri, and the Charter and Ordinances of the County of St. Charles, do hereby issue this Public Health Emergency Order that all owners, operators, or managers of any Assisted Living Facility, Intermediate Care Facility, Long-Term Care Facility, Residential Care Facility, or Skilled Nursing Facility, as defined in 19 CSR 30-83.010, located within the boundaries of St. Charles County, Missouri shall:

1. Not permit persons to visit unless providing critical assistance, in accordance with the April 3, 2020 order of the Director of the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services.

2. Not permit any visitors or vendors to enter buildings unless they:
 - a. Have a wellness check including temperature check (no one to enter facility with a temperature 99.5 Fahrenheit or above); and
 - b. Sign in and out; and
 - c. Wear a mask covering mouth and nose; and
 - d. Wear protective gloves.
3. Discontinue all personal care services (e.g., physical therapy, occupational therapy, massage therapy) unless it is a critical need as determined by a health care professional and then only if the caregiver:
 - a. Has a wellness check including temperature upon arrival to the facility (must be below 99.5 degrees Fahrenheit); and
 - b. Signs in and out; and
 - c. Wears a mask covering mouth and nose; and
 - d. Wears protective gloves.
4. Provide all employees with a wellness check prior to beginning a shift and at the end of their shift. This wellness check shall include:
 - a. An assessment of respiratory effort and rate; and
 - b. A temperature check
5. If any employees are exhibiting signs or symptoms of COVID-19 the employee must be sent home immediately and not allowed entry into the facility. Those symptoms include:
 - a. Temperature of 99.5 degrees Fahrenheit or above; or
 - b. Shortness of breath; or
 - c. Dry cough.
6. Require all employees to wear a mask covering nose and mouth and protective gloves when having contact with patients.
7. Provide a separate entrance for residents or patients that must leave the facility for care or treatment.
8. Assess all residents or patients for respiratory effort, respiratory rate, and temperature at minimum every 12 hours.
9. Treat all residents or patients that present with cough, headache, shortness of breath, diarrhea, or fever for the possibility of COVID-19 and take precautions to isolate the residents or patients.
10. Provide all persons entering a facility for a resident or patient facing an end of life situation with a mask, gown, and gloves, and require that they be worn for the entire period of time they are present in the facility.

11. Frequently sanitize commonly touched surfaces such as desks, keyboards, work spaces, key pads, door handles, cell phones, handrails, and elevator buttons.
12. Sanitize the entirety of all common areas and rooms at least daily.
13. Require employees to wash hands with soap and water hourly, as well as, before and after contact with any patient.
14. Provide hand sanitizer for employees and require employees to use it frequently.
15. Provide dedicated caregivers, if possible, to any resident or patient in isolation with a presumptive positive COVID-19 test, to limit staff exposure. All staff should wear full PPE when providing care to the COVID-19 positive patient.
16. Immediately notify the St. Charles County Department of Public Health of any presumptive positive tests for COVID-19 for any resident, patient, or employee, regardless of whether that resident, patient, or employee is a resident of St. Charles County. At minimum, the facility shall include the following information regarding the individual who has received a presumptive positive test: full name; date of birth; address; city of residence; zip code; county of residence; phone number; sex; race; ethnicity; and the date of testing.
17. Immediately notify the St. Charles County Department of Public Health of any suspected cases of COVID-19 for any resident, patient, or employee, regardless of whether there has been a presumptive positive test for COVID-19 and regardless of whether that resident, patient, or employee is a resident of St. Charles County. At minimum, the facility shall include the following information regarding the individual whom has a suspected case of COVID-19: full name; date of birth; address; city of residence; zip code; county of residence; phone number; sex; race; ethnicity; and whether or not the individual has been tested for COVID-19, and if so, the date of testing.
18. Educate staff on correctly performing hand hygiene, donning and doffing of PPE, and using appropriate products for environmental cleansing/disinfection.
19. Post signage for hand hygiene and cough etiquette and ensure that necessary supplies to accomplish this task are present in all entries and patient care areas.
20. Contact the St. Charles County Department of Public Health immediately if the facility is concerned that a resident, visitor, or employee may be a COVID-19 patient under investigation.
21. Report all violations of this policy to the St. Charles County Department of Public Health.

Unless otherwise set forth herein, this order shall be effective on April 9, 2020, 12:01 a.m. upon my execution hereof and it shall expire only upon further order.

Signed this 8th day of April, 2020.



Demetrius Cianci-Chapman, Director
Department of Public Health
St. Charles County, Missouri

ATTEST:



Brenda Hinton, County Registrar