

# SALUDA NURSING & REHAB CENTER

581 Newberry Highway Post Office Box 398  
Saluda, South Carolina 29138-0398

July 11, 2020

To Our Residents' Families and Friends:

We know you continue to be concerned about the spread of COVID-19 (coronavirus) in our state and community. Ensuring that our staff and residents are in a safe and healthy environment is our highest priority. Per guidance from CMS, CDC, and SC DHEC, we are continuing to follow these measures:

- 1. Restricting all visitors, volunteers, and non-essential health care personnel**  
All visitation is restricted at this time except for compassionate reasons such as end-of-life situations.
- 2. Actively screening**  
Anyone entering the building is screened for symptoms of coronavirus including actively checking temperatures for a fever at the beginning of each shift and mid-shift. Anyone with symptoms will not be permitted to enter the facility at any time.
- 3. Wearing a mask required at ALL times while in the facility**  
Because people can be contagious without feeling sick or having fever, to protect our residents, EVERYONE must wear a mask at ALL times when in the building. We are encouraging our residents to wear a mask when they come out of their rooms, also.
- 4. Keeping our residents and their families connected**  
We are continuing to try to keep our residents and families connected through phone calls, skyping (virtual communication), letters, window visits, SNC website, etc. If you are interested in having a virtual communication session (skyping) visit with your family member, please call the nursing home to make an appointment. #864-445-2146
- 5. Isolation area**  
This area has been established to separate individuals with unknown COVID -19 status from the rest of the population. At this time, we are placing all new admissions/ readmissions in this isolation area for 14 days before they are placed on the regular nursing units. Separate staffing teams are used to care for the residents while in the isolation room.
- 6. No Communal dining/group activities**  
Our residents are not participating in communal dining or group activities. We are encouraging social distancing among residents when possible.
- 7. Isolation of possibly exposed or positive residents**  
We are placing any residents that have tested positive or possibly been exposed to COVID-19 on isolation precautions per CDC guidelines. We are attempting to keep staff working in the same areas as much as possible to minimize possible exposures.
- 8. Frequent Cleaning of High Touch Areas**  
We are continuing to focus on cleaning high touch areas frequently.

We are continuing to encourage employees to do the following:

- 1. Sick employees need to stay home**

Employees are encouraged to stay home if they are sick.

**2. Notify us if you develop symptoms while at work**

Employees are encouraged to notify their supervisor if they develop symptoms at work and leave immediately.

**3. Let us know of any possible exposures**

Employees are encouraged to notify management if they have any exposure to other facilities or individuals with suspected or confirmed COVID-19.

**4. Practice proper hand hygiene**

All employees should wash their hands for at least 20 seconds or use alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains at least 60-95% alcohol upon entering the building and with any other interaction which could transfer virus to your hands.

**5. Practice social distancing**

All employees are encouraged to practice social distancing and wear a mask when they are in situations that social distancing may not be maintained (grocery stores, etc.)

We make every effort to stay up to date with the local, state, and federal government's recommendations. **We are pleased to announce that we recently had our infection control survey with DHEC with no citations.**

We know that this is a difficult time for everyone. We are continuing to do our best to make sure that we take every precaution that we can to keep our residents, our employees, and our families safe. We appreciate our staff's dedication and hard work during this time of crisis. We appreciate how understanding and cooperative our community has been. We understand that the changes we have implemented to protect our residents present challenges and inconveniences for everyone involved. We ask for your continued patience, support, and prayers as we face this challenge together.

**Once again, we will continue to communicate with our families by posting any updates on our website [www.saludanursing.org](http://www.saludanursing.org). We will notify you if any residents or staff are diagnosed with COVID-19 or if 3 or more residents or staff members have new onset of respiratory symptoms within 72 hours of each other through our website and "one call" system. Please note, we will notify you personally if your family member is possibly affected by any new cases or tests positive. We will update the website daily and will send out phone calls twice a week to keep our families informed. Please make sure that we have your current working telephone number. If your phone number or address changes, please notify us so that we have your updated contact information.**

Should you have any questions, please, feel free to contact us at #864-445-2146. For additional information, please visit the CDC's coronavirus disease [information page, https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html)

Sincerely,  
Debra Shealy, RN-DON  
Kerri Ridlehoover, RN- ADON, Infection Preventionist

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