

**St. Ann Rehabilitation and Nursing Center**  
**Bishop Gendron Senior Living Community**  
195 Dover Point Rd.  
Dover, NH 03820-4693  
T: 603-742-2612  
F: 603-743-3055  
stannrehabcenter.org



March 5, 2021

This week we completed our two rounds of COVID testing and I am happy to report we all remain negative.

On Monday, March 1<sup>st</sup> we received a 17-page document from the NH Department of Health and Human Services to provide guidance for re-opening for long term care facilities. There is much to read and decipher within this document but there are some changes to visitation which will help in getting us all back to being able to open more visitation for all of our residents and you. This guidance is also loosening the restriction we had on group activities within the facility. The caveat to all of this is that we must continue to limit visitation based on the positivity rate as indicated by CMS- which prevents social visitation when the county positivity rate is greater than 10%. According to CMS earlier this week- Strafford county was a 24.1%.

We remain eligible to continue to offer compassionate care visits. It is our belief that all residents may be eligible for a compassionate care visit, but these will need to be scheduled in advance so that the designated area is available. We will continue to be screening all visitors as we have been for the past year – taking one's temperature and asking COVID screening questions. If you are interested in scheduling a compassionate care visit- please contact Krista Charles at [sta.sw@nh-cc.org](mailto:sta.sw@nh-cc.org) or Jesse Taylor at [sta.swdir@nh-cc.org](mailto:sta.swdir@nh-cc.org) to coordinate a visit. The coordination and scheduling of these visits will help us to ensure the safety and cleanliness of the visitation area.

We are currently only in Phase 1 which indicates there are no trips for residents outside the facility unless medically necessary.

We will also be implementing rapid COVID testing for all compassionate care visitors and social visitors once we are opened to that based on the CMS positivity rates. Results of testing will be ready in 15 minutes and will be completed 15 minutes prior to the time of the visit. ALL visitors will enter St. Ann through the MAIN LOBBY area and be tested upon arrival. Visitors will need to sit and await their test results before being moved along to the visitation area to see his/her loved one. Only two visitors will be permitted for any visit. Please let us know IF you have completed the COVID vaccination series.

Life Enrichment Update: This week we slowly began the transition into the month of March. The staff at St. Ann had their Skills Fair on Tuesday and Thursday which provided our residents with the opportunity to see the staff laughing and learning with the Sports Themed event.

The Life Enrichment Department is staff challenged, but the team here at St. Ann- does what they do best and jump in wherever needed. We did interview 3 candidates last week for the Life Enrichment Manager position. An offer was made yesterday and I am pleased to report the offer was accepted. We look for the new Life Enrichment Manager to begin later in March. This begins our journey is rebuilding the department. The residents enjoy the daily Chronicle newsletter and a few games but always look forward to our Hallway Happy Hour to top off the week. We enjoy the sounds of the electric organ being played by 2 residents who look forward to sharing their talents with all of us here.

Today we celebrate the amazing staff here at St. Ann with a special treat of DONUT for “we DONOT know what we would do without them” and thanking them for “being so De-PEN-dable” with a new Pen - we love Pens in healthcare!!

Thank you so much for your ongoing support, love and prayers.

*Kate McCracken, LNHA, MHA*

Administrator

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Phone 603-742-2612 ext. 123