

# WEEKLY FAMILY UPDATE

Grand Traverse Pavilions update for residents and responsible parties during COVID-19

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In response to the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) all nursing homes in the state are mandated to test non-vaccinated staff and residents for COVID-19. We are also required to notify residents, families and staff of any positive COVID results.

**We are pleased to share there were **NO** positive test results from our staff or residents confirmed in over two months.**

You may be aware that the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) and the CDC have updated recommendations and guidelines regarding masking, vaccination status, visitation and routine testing for COVID. These guidelines contain information such as not wearing a mask indoors if you are fully vaccinated, visitations in a facility without wearing a mask, and vaccinated individuals should not routinely be tested for COVID. However, as a health care facility in Michigan we are bound to follow the most stringent rules. At this time MDHHS who oversees healthcare facilities in Michigan has informed us that they have not adopted the CDC or CMS guidelines and have issued a new epidemic order for residential care facilities on May 21, 2021. Based on this new information, we reinstated communal dining and group activities are slowly being reintroduced for our residents per the guidelines set forth in the current orders.

The most recent Grand Traverse Pavilions visitation policy allows for outdoor visits with very little restrictions for those residents who are fully vaccinated. As the weather is improving we have established a comfortable outdoor visitation area under the large tent on the Grand Lawn. We hope you can take advantage of these areas and opt to bring your loved one outside. The policy also allows for community outings. This is a very exciting prospect for many residents. Some ideas might be to take them for a short car ride, park at one of the many public beaches and enjoy the view, or enjoy a special treat by going for ice cream. We only ask that you read the requirements for setting up these outings and be respectful of the times for pick up and returns.

At such time MDHHS allows facilities to adopt the recommendations from CMS and the CDC we will notify you of any revised visitations guidelines or policies via automated call to read the revisions posted on our web site under the family weekly updates at <https://www.gtpavilions.org/family-weekly-updates/>.

If you have any questions or would like to schedule a visit with a resident please contact the pavilion Assistant Director of Nursing (ADON) or the assigned social worker. For the cottages please contact the director or the cottage nurse.

Thank you again for your continued patience and understanding as we navigate the endless rule changes published by CMS, CDC and MDDHS. We are encouraged by the Governor's recent rescinding of COVID orders, and hope to have new direction from MDHHS soon.



**Grand Traverse Pavilions**  
A COMMUNITY CARING FOR GENERATIONS

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