

## **Reopening and Pandemic Response Plan - Revised**

October 29, 2020

As understanding of the COVID-19 pandemic changes and new guidance is issued by governmental authorities, Bethany Home Association (dba Bethany+Village) continues to adapt to preserve the health and well being of all who live and work within our mission. This document is an updated revision of the original plan created June 15, 2020 and is subject to change as conditions and Federal and State guidance changes.

Understanding the risks posed by the 2020 COVID-19 global pandemic, Bethany Home Association proposes the following phased reopening plan to allow visitors to our building. The Association recognizes that the COVID-19 virus cannot be traced without molecular testing. The Association recognizes and has verified that testing of asymptomatic individuals is not available in our region or from our regional healthcare partners. The Association recognizes that Federal and State authorities have been unable to appropriately address the needs of citizens during COVID-19, and that healthcare providers have been tasked with creating the safest possible environment during the outbreak. The Association has been in contact with CMS, KDHE, KDADS, KHEL, and McPherson County Health Department throughout the pandemic. The Association believes that the social, emotional, and health risks posed by long term resident isolation from family members should be carefully considered as a threat equivalent to that posed by COVID-19. The Association accepts no responsibility for pandemic infection outside of gross negligence, nor does the Association accept responsibility for individuals who do not follow published guidance or who fail to answer the screening questionnaire truthfully.

To meet the needs of those in our care, the following phased reopening plan is proposed. Bethany Home Association will review State and Regional data relating to COVID-19, work with McPherson County Health Department, follow guidance released by KDADS, and proceed through the following phases based on available data with consideration of potential risks and benefits. The Phased Plan will be reviewed every two weeks, and movement between phases will be determined by data and advice acquired through KDHE, KHEL, KDADS, and McPherson County Health. Movement between phases may be more or less restrictive depending on pandemic conditions and all phase changes will be announced only after authorized by McPherson County Health Department.

### **Phase 0**

**In effect since March 12, 2020 and/or upon recommendation of County Health.**

All staff will be required to screen for COVID-19 exposure and have their temperature taken before reporting to work. All staff will wear protective face masks when working with residents, in public spaces, when working in proximity to one another, when around food or dining areas, and as deemed necessary. All staff will adhere to safety and infection control protocols.

Visitation is prohibited with the exception for compassionate care, end of life, essential visitors, medical personnel, and others deemed necessary for the health and well-being of residents or the continued operations of the organization.

All allowed visitors will be screened for COVID-19 exposure, symptoms, and have their temperature taken and logged before being allowed entry. Anyone with known exposure, with a temperature of 100 degrees Fahrenheit or greater, or exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19 will not be granted access.

Resident dining and activities will occur only with appropriate social distancing. Residents will be encouraged to wear cloth face masks when out of their rooms and when caregivers are present in their rooms. Activities may be conducted with less than 10 participants, social distancing will be practiced and encouraged, and all residents will be strongly encouraged to wear cloth face masks for the duration of the activity and to practice hand hygiene.

Newly admitted residents or current residents re-admitted following a departure from the building may be required to quarantine in room for 14 days.

Transportation will be provided only for appointments deemed as medically necessary by the resident's physician. Residents will be required to wear a cloth face mask or protective covering while out of the building.

## **Phase 1**

**Effective upon county Phase Out and/or as advised by County Health.**

All staff will be required to screen for COVID-19 exposure and have their temperature taken before reporting to work. All staff will wear protective face masks when working with residents, in public spaces, when working in proximity to one another, when around food or dining areas, and as deemed necessary. All staff will adhere to safety and infection control protocols.

Visitation will be generally prohibited with the exception for compassionate care, end of life, essential visitors, medical personnel, and others deemed necessary for the health and well-being of residents or the continued operations of the organization. Nonessential healthcare personnel are restricted.

Vendors and business partners including medical personnel, barber and beauty providers, and others deemed essential for operations will be permitted in the building for the minimum time necessary to complete their work. All allowed visitors will be screened for COVID-19 exposure, symptoms, and have their temperature taken and logged before being allowed entry. Anyone with known exposure, with a temperature of 100 degrees Fahrenheit or greater, or exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19 will not be granted access.

All allowed vendors/partners will be required to wear protective face masks at all times and to adhere to the same safety and infection control protocols expected of staff.

Scheduled visits with family members will be accommodated, by appointment, in outdoor areas or climate controlled indoor isolated areas with exterior access. Visitors must bring their own face masks, will be screened upon arrival, and will be required to adhere to social distancing and infection control protocols. Items brought from outside must be limited and subject to disinfection and quarantine. Outside food and drink will not be permitted, and dining services will not be available to visitors due to infection control protocols.

Resident dining and activities will only occur with appropriate 6' social distancing. Residents will be encouraged to wear cloth face masks when out of their rooms and when caregivers are present in their rooms. Activities may be conducted with less than 10 participants, social distancing will be practiced and encouraged, and all residents will be strongly encouraged to wear cloth face masks for the duration of the activity and to practice hand hygiene.

Newly admitted residents or current residents re-admitted following a departure from the building may be required to quarantine in room for 14 days.

Transportation will be provided only for appointments deemed as medically necessary by the resident's physician. Residents will be required to wear a cloth face mask or protective covering while out of the building.

## **Phase 2**

### **Effective two weeks following Phase 1 implementation and/or on advice by County Health.**

All staff will be required to screen for COVID-19 exposure and have their temperature taken before reporting to work. All staff will wear protective face masks when working with residents, in public spaces, when working in proximity to one another, when around food or dining areas, and as deemed necessary. All staff will adhere to safety and infection control protocols.

Visitation will be generally prohibited with the exception for compassionate care, end of life, essential visitors, medical personnel, and others deemed necessary for the health and well-being of residents or the continued operations of the organization. Nonessential healthcare personnel are restricted.

Vendors and business partners including medical personnel, barber and beauty providers, and others deemed essential for operations will be permitted in the building for the minimum time necessary to complete their work. All allowed visitors will be screened for COVID-19 exposure, symptoms, and have their temperature taken and logged before being allowed entry. Anyone with known exposure, with a temperature of 100 degrees Fahrenheit or greater, or exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19 will not be granted access.

All vendors/partners will be required to wear protective face masks at all times and to adhere to the same safety and infection control protocols expected of staff.

Limited numbers of non-essential healthcare personnel/contractors, as determined by the organization, may be allowed with screening and additional precautions including social distancing, hand hygiene, and cloth face covering or facemask.

Resident dining and activities will only occur with appropriate 6' social distancing. Residents will be encouraged to wear cloth face masks when out of their rooms and when caregivers are present in their rooms. Activities may be conducted with less than 10 participants, social distancing will be practiced and encouraged, and all residents will be strongly encouraged to wear cloth face masks for the duration of the activity and to practice hand hygiene.

Families may be allowed scheduled visits on a patio or isolated indoor area. Family members must bring their own face masks, will be screened for COVID-19 exposure, symptoms and temperature will be checked and logged. Visits will require a minimum of 6' social distancing and require the use of cloth facemasks for the duration of the visit. Food and gifts may not be exchanged. Items brought for a resident during the visit may be quarantined and subject to disinfection prior to transferring to the resident's possession. Contact between visitors and residents may require a 14 day in-room quarantine period to determine if the resident was exposed to COVID-19 viral infection. Dining services will not be available to visitors.

Newly admitted residents or current residents re-admitted following a departure from the building may be required to quarantine in room for 14 days.

Transportation will be provided only for appointments deemed as medically necessary by the resident's physician. Residents will be required to wear a cloth face mask or protective covering while out of the building.

### **Phase 3**

**Effective two weeks following Phase 2 implementation and/or on advice by County Health.**

All staff will be required to screen for COVID-19 exposure and have their temperature taken before reporting to work. All staff will wear protective face masks when working with residents, in public spaces, when working in proximity to one another, when around food or dining areas, and as deemed necessary. All staff will adhere to safety and infection control protocols.

Non-essential healthcare personnel/contractors may be admitted to the building, as deemed necessary, with full screening, hand hygiene, social distancing, and cloth face masks.

Family members may visit their loved ones without an appointment during specified visiting hours. All visitors must bring their own face masks, will be screened for COVID-19 exposure, symptoms, and have their temperature taken and logged before being allowed entry. Anyone with known exposure, with a temperature of 100 degrees Fahrenheit or greater, or exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19 will not be granted access.

Hand hygiene will be required upon arrival. Visitors must bring and wear protective face masks. Visitors will be allowed to spend time in their loved one's room and may only travel between the front door and the room, making no contact with other residents or staff members. Items brought from outside should be sanitized by family members before coming to the building. Outside food and drink may be shared with the family member, in their room, during a visit. Dining services will not be available to visitors.

Activities and outings may be conducted with groups able to accommodate 6' social distancing, face masks will be required, and hand hygiene will be practiced. Outings will not occur to events or places where others are not required to practice social distancing and wear face masks.

For medically necessary trips outside of the building the residents must wear a face mask, the organization must share the resident's COVID-19 status with the transportation service and the entity with whom the resident has the appointment.

Congregate dining will continue with 6' social distancing required.

Bethany Home Association will resume most normal transportation, encourage the use of face masks, but will avoid participating in large public group activities.

Newly admitted residents or current residents re-admitted following a departure from the building may be required to quarantine in room for 14 days.

All persons entering the facility and all staff at the beginning of each shift will undergo screening and temperature checks. All persons entering the building will be required to practice hand hygiene, wear a face mask, and adhere to safety and infection control protocols.

### **Phase Out**

**Effective when COVID-19 risk is deemed to no longer pose a risk to the health and safety of the residents of Bethany Home Association. Not to be enacted sooner than two weeks from the start of Phase 3.**

Operations will resume to pre-COVID status.

Staff will screen for temperature prior to reporting for work. Staff demonstrating a temperature of 100 degrees Fahrenheit or greater will not be permitted to work. All staff will adhere to safety and infection control protocols.

Visitors will screen for temperature before proceeding through the building. Visitors demonstrating a temperature of 100 degrees Fahrenheit or greater, reporting exposure to a known source of illness, or exhibiting signs of illness will not be permitted to enter the building.

Group meetings will resume with no size restrictions.

Congregate dining will resume with no restrictions. Guest meals will be made available for visiting families.

Scheduled transportation will be unrestricted.

### **Post Phase Screening of Staff and Visitors**

Bethany Home Association may, at its discretion, screen staff and visitors for signs of illness or infection prior to allowing staff and visitors to enter the building at any time. The health and well-being of all people is our primary concern regardless of pandemic conditions. Staff exhibiting signs of illness will be asked to leave until symptoms are no longer present or a physician has deemed them safe to return to work. Visitors may be asked to reschedule their visit once their symptoms have cleared or they have been deemed no longer infectious to those around them.

## **PPE Preservation Plan**

Due to the limited supplies of CDC approved PPE, limited availability on the common market, and the need to preserve supplies dedicated for COVID-19 direct care needs, Bethany Home Association will adopt the following plan.

Bethany Home Association will work to acquire and preserve a 2-week supply of dedicated N95/KN95 masks, disposable gowns, gloves, and related PPE for the direct care of residents diagnosed with COVID-19. Acquisition and preservation of these supplies will be dependent upon supply availability through vendors. Bethany Home Association will provide training and fit-testing to employees required to use dedicated COVID-19 supplies. If an Alternate Care Site is activated, these supplies will be prioritized for that site and the residents and staff therein.

While the resident and staff population remain asymptomatic and standard testing shows no positive diagnoses of COVID-19 within a building, all staff and visitors will be required to wear cloth face coverings while in the buildings, in public spaces accessible by residents, and when providing direct care. Residents will be provided with and encouraged to wear cloth face masks when caregivers are present in their rooms and when they are in commons areas within a building.

If a resident is diagnosed with COVID-19, Bethany Home Association will attempt to locate an alternate care site. Use of an alternate care site will allow PPE use optimization and reduce risk of the spread of infection.

## **COVID-19 Testing Plan**

Bethany Home Association will follow the recommendations as set forth by the CDC, CMS, KDHE, KDADS, and County Health Department to the greatest degree allowed with available resources. Bethany Home Association has determined that local and regional health partners and laboratories do not have the capacity to test all residents and staff, nor are they anticipated to receive testing supplies in sufficient volume to meet the requirements recommended by CMS in the recommendation Ref: QSO-20-30-NH.

Point of care testing will be conducted given availability of supplies. Vendor contacts indicate that most supplies have been contracted by the federal government and acquisition is limited to federal distribution. Currently, in-house antigen testing is conducted with Abbott Binax cards with CLIA Waiver and CMS Wavier approval. A point of care testing machine is scheduled to arrive on November 2, 2020 and will be added to the organization's CLIA waiver.

Bethany Home Association has identified two potential laboratories capable of performing testing on all staff and residents should it be deemed necessary:

Bethany Home Association is contracted with:

Solaris Diagnostics (DX Solutions, LLC dba Solaris Diagnostics), 110 Dewey Drive, Suite A, Nicholasville Kentucky 40356. Contact: Kris Marintzer, [kmo@discoveryhsinc.com](mailto:kmo@discoveryhsinc.com), 913-558-9225.

LabCorp, 7800 W. 110<sup>th</sup> Street, Overland Park, KS 66210. Contact: Gail Demos, [deamog@labcorp.com](mailto:deamog@labcorp.com), 913-339-0420.

## Testing Practices

Bethany Home Association will make a good faith effort conduct staff testing as mandated by state and federal agencies as supplies allow. Our organization is in contact with HHS to supply point of care antigen testing. Due to limited testing supplies in our region, under advisement from local practitioners, and from advice presented by KDADS, PCR testing of asymptomatic individuals may not be conducted until a resident or staff member who has had contact with the building has tested positive for COVID-19.

Testing will be performed on any resident or staff member presenting COVID-19 symptoms as defined by the CDC. Staff will not be permitted to work for 14 days of onset of symptoms and/or until deemed by a physician as having tested negative or no longer presenting a risk of transmission. Residents receiving testing will be required to remain under in-room isolation for 14 days of onset of symptoms or until tested negative for COVID-19, or until deemed by a physician as no longer presenting a risk of transmission.

If a resident or staff member has tested positive for COVID-19, contact tracing will begin, and all residents and staff potentially exposed will be prioritized for testing. Following positive test results of more than one individual within a contact group, Bethany Home Association will provide testing for individuals with known contact. Testing for all residents and staff may be conducted if an outbreak is identified. Testing will be conducted as advised by the building medical director and/or under advisement by the County Health Department, and according to guidelines set forth by CMS, KDADS, and County Health services.

## Reporting

Bethany Assisted Living will follow reporting guidelines as set forth by KDADS, KDHE, CDC, and County Health.

Bethany Home will report identified cases of COVID-19 to KDHE within 4 hours of notification from a laboratory or physician. Reporting will be made through the KDHE portal <https://diseasereporting.kdhe.ks.gov>, via secure fax to the KDHE Epidemiology Hotline (877-427-7318), via secure e-mail to the KDHE Epidemiology Hotline ([kdhe.epihotline@ks.gov](mailto:kdhe.epihotline@ks.gov)), or by calling the KDHE Epidemiology Hotline (877-427-7317). Reporting will also be made to the National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN). A report may be provided to the County Health Officer to verify receipt of information from KDHE. Bethany Home Association will also report results to the identified resident's DPOA or designee. Reporting requirements will be adjusted as required and requested by CDC, CMS, KDHE, KDADS, and County Health

## Care and Treatment of COVID-19 Positive Individuals

If a resident of Bethany Home Association is identified as being positive for COVID-19, Bethany Home Association will work to provide continuity of care in the following order:

- 1.) Provide transportation to a hospital setting for treatment and care until the individual's physician deems them to no longer be infectious and safe to return to a congregate living setting.
- 2.) Provide transportation to a dedicated COVID-19 Ward in a partnering Long-Term Care setting until symptoms have resolved and the resident's physician deems them to no longer be infectious and safe to return to a congregate living setting.
- 3.) Provide care under in-room isolation precautions at Bethany Home Association or Bethany Assisted Living.

Bethany Home Association recognizes that COVID-19 presents unique and challenging treatment that is best addressed in a hospital setting. Attempts to partner with local and regional hospitals beyond “acute care” have been made and efforts for partnership will continue until a hospital site is identified or all regional sites have denied access to post-acute care for Bethany Home Association residents. Bethany Home Association is in contact with regional long-term care associations and is seeking to identify a partner with the capacity to create a COVID-19 care ward. If identified, care will be provided in partnership with the contracting licensed long-term care site. If options 1.) and 2.) are not possible, Bethany Home Association will provide in-room care under isolation precautions to the greatest degree possible given the limitations of building layout, occupancy rates, and availability at the time of infection. Bethany Home Association has remained at capacity throughout this pandemic. The practice of Person Centered Care allows all residents to furnish their private rooms with furniture and personal belongings. Due to this practice room moves, cohorting, and the creation of isolation wings is not possible. Should there be an outbreak and no alternate care site is available, our best remaining option is to isolate affected individuals to their rooms.

Asymptomatic staff who have tested positive for COVID-19 and been deemed suitable for work by their physician may be allowed to provide care at an Alternate Care Site and for residents identified as positive for COVID-19.

Any staff providing direct care to COVID-19 positive individuals will be required to undergo a 14 day at home quarantine, test negative for COVID-19, and/or cleared by their personal physician before being allowed to return to work with asymptomatic residents in the Bethany Home Association Community.