

RESIDENT VISITATION – FLORIDA ONLY

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PURPOSE:

To establish a visitation policy for Florida Arden Courts Assisted Living Communities (“Community”).

POLICY:

In this community, residents and families are the first priority in promoting a healthy environment. Visitation is not restricted, limited, or otherwise denied based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or disability. Flexible visitation arrangements are made, as appropriate, to meet the needs of residents and their guests and to comply with Florida law. Visitation processes may vary to meet the safety and security needs of our residents and staff.

GUIDELINES / PROCEDURE:

General Visitation

- Community generally observes open visitation as the standard hours for resident visitation.
- Promote sleep and quiet time between 10:00 p.m. - 8:00 a.m.
- Visitation may be restricted or limited at the resident and/or family’s request, or when deemed clinically necessary by the healthcare provider (e.g., physician).
- Consensual physical contact is permitted between resident and visitors.
- Community resident may designate a visitor who is a family member, friend, guardian or other individual as an essential caregiver. Community will allow in-person visitation by the essential caregiver for at least two (2) hours daily in addition to any other visitation authorized.
- Community will not limit in-person visitation in any of the following circumstances, unless the resident, client, or patient objects:
 - End-of-life situations.
 - A resident who was living with family before being admitted to the provider’s care is struggling with the change in environment and lack of in-person family support.
 - The resident is making one or more major medical decisions.
 - A resident is experiencing emotional distress or grieving the loss of a friend or family member who recently died.
 - A resident needs cueing or encouragement to eat or drink which was previously provided by a family member or caregiver.
 - A resident who used to talk and interact with others is seldom speaking.
- Due to space limitations in some resident rooms, it may be necessary to limit the number of visitors. Large families may use designated waiting areas as determined by each location.
- Visitation and Security procedures to manage visitation may vary by community and identified risks at each community. Visitors may be required to provide identification for access.
- All visitors must comply with community infection control and education policies.
- Visitors cannot be compelled to show or provide proof of vaccination or immunization status.
- If a resident has a disability, community will make reasonable accommodations to the visitation policy based on the needs of the disabled resident. Residents with disabilities requiring a support person for communication of medical needs, medical decision making, activities of daily living, behavioral support, emotional support, managing anxiety or other unique needs will not be counted as a visitor in areas limiting the number of visitors.
- Children are welcome to visit but must be accompanied by an adult.

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Visitor Restrictions and Limitations

- Community may restrict support persons and/or visitors if allowing them would:
 - Change the nature of the community’s program (example: support persons and/or visitors refuse to follow community’s policies).
 - Create undue financial hardship to the organization.
 - Clinical judgment determines that it is in the resident’s best interest.
 - Poses a direct threat to the resident or other residents in the community.
- Visitor limitations may occur, when necessary, to prevent spread of communicable disease to resident, visitors and the community as determined by current standard of care, federal and/or state specific guidance.
- Requests by visitors to stay overnight are assessed on a case-by-case basis and require approval of department leadership.
- Adult visitors who are unable to care for or make decisions for themselves must be accompanied by a responsible adult and are not left in the care of the resident.
- Visitors who are uncooperative or combative with staff may also have their visitor privileges revoked or modified. All staff have the right to carry out their work without fearing for their safety.

REFERENCES:

Florida Statutes §408.823