

COVID-19 UPDATE

February 25, 2021

Dear Residents of The Mather,

We have no new cases of COVID-19 to report at this time.

We are delighted to see promising downward trends in COVID-19 cases and hospitalizations in our area. These changes, along with our progress on vaccination, means that guidelines are changing. We have some welcome changes coming next week:

VISITORS TO INDEPENDENT LIVING ARE WELCOME:

We know you miss having your friends and family here at The Mather! **Beginning on Wednesday, March 3, Independent Living residents can begin to host outside guests in their homes.***

In an effort to offer safe visits while minimizing risks to residents and employees, we ask that you limit each visit to two friends or family members. We must follow the safest practices which are outlined below:

- **Upon entry of the main building, visitors must go through a screening station located at the front entrance.** Those who do not pass the screening will be asked to postpone their visit.
- Visitors must wear masks the entire time they are in the community, including in the resident's apartment home.
- Visits can take place inside residents' homes. Please do not gather or linger in amenity areas or hallways.
- For the duration of the visit, visitors and residents are asked to practice physical distancing, staying at least 6 feet away from each other; keep their masks on; and wash their hands for 20 seconds or use hand sanitizer upon entry of the home and prior to leaving.
- Any resident who is under quarantine may not accept visitors.

OTHER GOOD NEWS:

Also beginning on March 3 (which will mark two weeks since our last vaccination clinic), we'll ease some guidelines in the community, including

- increasing capacity inside Get Fit so more residents can exercise in person
- the pool is open, and swimmers can reserve time through Get Fit
- expanding elevator capacity to a maximum of four people at once
- opening the library, so long as visitors maintain physical distancing of at least 6 feet

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TRAVEL GUIDELINES:

Per the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines, updated February 2, COVID-19 cases are “extremely high” in 46 out of 50 states as well as in the majority of countries around the world and non-essential travel should be avoided at this time.

Upon returning from travel out of state, we will not require residents to quarantine. Residents will be expected **to wear a mask and remain physically distant from other residents for 14 days following their return to The Mather, as well as avoid amenity areas such as the restaurants and Get Fit.** This will help prevent the unintentional spread of the virus in our community.

We are pleased that an overwhelming majority of residents and employees alike received the vaccine through The Mather. Continue to protect yourself and others by practicing physical distancing (no closer than 6 feet apart); wash your hand frequently for 20 seconds or more, and wear a mask that covers your mouth and nose.

Take care and stay well.

Sincerely,

Deann Daniel
Executive Director

*The Mather Life Centre must follow the guidance from the Illinois Department of Public Health and CMS, and is not open for visitors at this time.