

August 6, 2021
Communities at Indian Haven

Dear Friends, Families, Residents and Caregivers,

Due to rising concerns about the Delta variant of COVID-19, we are again implementing masking and social distancing protocols for our facility, effective immediately. Decisions of this nature are not taken lightly and are being made out of an abundance of caution. Our primary goal is safety and to prevent introducing the “fitter” and “faster” Delta variant to our community. We will continue to monitor the Delta variant and update our practices accordingly. Vaccination of Indiana County is 38.1%.

Reinstating the masking and physical distancing protocols is in the best interest for the safety and welfare of your loved ones and our staff. COVID infections are expected to peak in October and will impact both the vaccinated and unvaccinated. We want to reduce the risk of another outbreak.

Only July 27, 2021, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) updated its guidance on how to protect yourself and others who are fully vaccinated:

- To maximize protection from the Delta variant and prevent possibly spreading it to others, wear a mask indoors in public if you are in an area [of substantial or high transmission](#).
- Wearing a mask is most important if you have a weakened immune system or if, because of your age or an underlying medical condition, you are at [increased risk for severe disease](#), or if someone in your household has a weakened immune system, is at increased risk for severe disease, or is unvaccinated
- If you have a condition or are taking medications that weaken your immune system, you may NOT be protected even if you are fully vaccinated. You should continue to take all precautions recommended for unvaccinated people until advised otherwise by your healthcare provider.

[Read the CDC recommendations.](#)

As always, the best way to limit one’s chances of getting COVID is to become fully vaccinated. We encourage all residents, staff, family members and volunteers to become vaccinated, which makes one less susceptible to the variant. Find vaccines near you: <https://www.vaccines.gov/search>. For information about vaccinations, please check [the CDC’s fact sheet](#). Resident vaccination remains at **96% and Staff is 82%**. Our Facility’s Resident Impact (May 15, 2020, through Aug. 5, 2021):

Number of cases	
18	ADMISSIONS: Residents admitted or readmitted who were previously hospitalized and treated for COVID-19
0	CONFIRMED: Residents with new laboratory positive COVID-19
0	SUSPECTED: Residents with new suspected COVID-19
68	TOTAL DEATHS: Residents who died in the facility or another location
0	COVID-19 DEATHS: Residents with suspected or laboratory positive COVID-19 who died in the facility or another location.

Visiting of vaccinated Residents who are in a private room or do not have a roommate and fully vaccinated family members has NOT changed. **We are still required by PA Department of Health to wear a mask** in all long-term care facilities. A regular mask is required and we have disposable ones available should you forget one. **Cloth masks are not acceptable.** Please notify us of your

visit to assure your loved one is prepared and a place is ready for visiting for Residents with roommates. We do our best to accommodate all visits because we know how important it is to you and your loved one. Unvaccinated Residents and unvaccinated family members must stay in the resident room for the visit and wear the mask over the nose. All new admissions must have a covid 19 test PRIOR to admission from the hospital or home setting. Residents who are on transmission-based precautions for COVID-19 should only receive visits that are virtual, through windows, or in-person for compassionate care situations, with adherence to transmission-based precautions and core infection control principles. Please try to visit and call when we are not providing meal service. (8 AM to 9AM, 12 N – 1 PM and 5 PM to 6 PM). Continue to enjoy the courtyard area for your visits. There are currently no changes with our visitation protocols at this time. We simply request that masking and physical distancing protocols be followed, even if you and your loved one are.

Items may be dropped off at the **FRONT entrance Monday to Friday from 8:30 AM to 5 PM.** All clothing items need marked with the last name. Please use the Accushield to sign in and out, hand sanitize before and after your visit and please stay home if you are not feeling well.

Residents who are on transmission-based precautions for COVID-19 should only receive visits that are virtual, through windows, or in-person for compassionate care situations, with adherence to transmission-based precautions and core infection control principles.

I appreciated all your cards, calls, and well wishes on my retirement! I wish all of you well and I will miss taking care of your loved ones. PLEASE get **VACCINATED!** Blessings, Kim Cobaugh

Thank you again for entrusting us with the care of your loved ones. If you have any questions, we are always available for you.

Kim Chí, NHA and Your Communities at Indian Haven Family