

December 30, 2021



**Greetings, and Happy New Year!**

The end of 2021 is upon us, and in many ways, it seems to have been a mirror image of 2020. We continue to manage the COVID-19 pandemic in our communities and stress diligence in our Infection Prevention Protocols, and mandates and regulations from public health agencies still guide the care provided in our licensed communities. Yet, in other ways, 2021 has been brighter. We started the year with the delivery of COVID-19 vaccines to both residents and employees. All Eskaton communities held vaccine clinics or were offered opportunities to receive the COVID-19 vaccine. Recently, COVID-19 booster clinics were held to ensure all who wanted the booster shot had the opportunity to receive one. There are now treatment therapies that are proven to reduce severe illness and, in many cases, can be administered without hospitalization. Still on the horizon are oral treatment therapies that also have the potential to reduce illness severity. Although we have current cases in some communities, the COVID-19 case count remains low compared to one year ago. These are all hopeful signs that we will continue to improve our management of this illness in 2022.

**Skilled Nursing Communities and Residential (RCFE) Communities:**

All employees, in both our Skilled Nursing communities and Residential Living communities, are required to have an FDA-approved COVID-19 vaccine and booster dose, or have an approved religious or medical exemption filed, as directed by the Public Health Orders.

All communities continue to screen employees, visitors and residents for signs and symptoms of COVID-19, and we request that if you plan to visit and become ill, please postpone until you are well. In addition, visitors will need to show proof of vaccination or a negative COVID-19 test (completed within 72 hours of the visit) for indoor visitation. Outdoor visitation does not have this requirement.

**Affordable Housing Communities:**

We continue to screen visitors and staff at our Affordable Housing communities and ask that you postpone your visit if you are showing signs or symptoms of illness. In addition, we are following all federal, state and local health department guidelines for face coverings, distancing and hand hygiene. Please check with the community you are visiting for up-to-date visitation guidance.

**All Communities:**

Indoor, outdoor and virtual visitation is available at all communities. Essential visits will continue as they have been, and all current COVID-19 guidance and regulations regarding visitation and infection prevention will remain. Visitation requirements may be amended by local public health authorities at any time, and we appreciate your understanding and flexibility in these cases.

With appreciation,

The Trousdale & Eskaton Leadership