

Dedicated to protecting and improving the health and environment of the people of Colorado

July 23, 2021

Dear family member,

Thank you for your continued COVID-19 pandemic response cooperation. We still need to remain vigilant to prevent serious illness for our loved ones in residential care facilities. The recent emergence of the SARS-CoV-2 virus Delta variant has highlighted the concerns we continue to face.

We understand the challenges evolving mitigation guidance brings to you and your loved ones and have done our best to factor in all the consequences of additional prevention measures. Residential care facilities remain on the frontline of Colorado's fight against COVID-19.

Visitors are strongly encouraged to undergo regular COVID-19 testing prior to visiting to ensure your loved one's safety, as well as the larger community. Colorado sponsors more than 80 free community testing sites throughout the state. These sites do not require identification, insurance, or a doctor's note. Use the map and list to <u>find a free community test site near you</u>. Additionally, the state is providing testing that might be available to visitors at your loved one's facility. Early detection of the virus is extremely important to keep everyone safe.

When preparing to visit, please talk with your family member's facility for rules and guidelines specific to visitation. Your family member's facility must follow visitation guidance.

While in the facility, please follow the facility's instructions for safe visitation. Failure to comply with visitation rules can result in your visit being cut short. Visitation is vitally important to both residents and family members, but must be conducted safely for everyone's health.

If you have any questions about the current visitation guidance, please contact <u>residentialcarestriketeam@state.co.us</u>. Once again, thank you for your patience and understanding as we strive to best protect our most vulnerable Coloradans.

