



# SUNSHINE MEADOWS RETIREMENT COMMUNITY

400 S BUHLER RD, BUHLER, KS 67522 - (620)-543-2251

To Our Residents and Family Members:

We know many of you are concerned about the spread of COVID-19 (the new coronavirus) and how it may impact us here at Sunshine Meadows Retirement Community. Ensuring residents are cared for in a safe and healthy environment is our first priority. At this time, we don't have any cases in our facility or community. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) have recommended a variety of steps that we are implementing to help reduce the potential for the virus to enter our building. However, we need your help in battling COVID-19. Below are some examples of how you can help protect the residents, as well as prevent the spread of this disease.

**At this time, we request that family and friends do not visit the facility, as a precaution.** Out of an abundance of caution, we are limiting all visitors to our facility at this time. We are posting signs on our entryway doors to notify visitors of this policy and actively screening staff, who need to come into the building.

We understand that connecting with your loved ones is incredibly important, and there are a variety of other ways you might consider communicating with them. These may include telephone, email, text, video chat or social media.

**Residents and staff, please help prevent the spread of infection by exercising proper hand washing hygiene as well as coughing and sneezing etiquette.** We offer hand washing and alcohol-based hand sanitizer stations throughout the building, which you are welcome to use. Please also avoid shaking hands and hugging with any individual. **If you are experiencing a cough, fever, sore throat, runny nose, and/or shortness of breath, please let a staff member know immediately.**

Sunshine Meadows Retirement Community is following the recommendations of the CDC on prevention steps, including restricting visitation, following strict handwashing procedures, and in many circumstances, wearing gowns and gloves when interacting with residents who present symptoms. We also are staying up to date with the CDC recommendations as they may continue to change. In addition, Sunshine Meadows stays in close contact with the local and state health department, and we are following their guidance.

We will notify you if any residents or staff are diagnosed with COVID-19. Should you have any questions, please keep up to date by following Sunshine Meadows Retirement Community on facebook, and our website at [www.sunshinemeadows.org](http://www.sunshinemeadows.org). If you have any questions or concerns please contact:

Keith Pankratz, CEO (620) 543-5671  
Londa Tipton, DON (620) 543-5684  
Debi Thompson, MDS Coordinator (620) 543-5673

For additional information, please visit the CDC's coronavirus disease [information page](#).

Sincerely,  
Sunshine Meadows Retirement Community

Keith Pankratz, CEO

# **NOTICE**

**TO: All residents and staff at SMRC**

**DATE: March 12, 2020**

**RE: CDC & CMS are calling for implementing restrictions for Nursing Homes/Retirement Communities. This will become effective at midnight on Friday, MARCH 13, 2020.**

**Preface: There are NO cases of Coronavirus or Influenza on campus currently and our goal is to keep it that way. So to do that best we will be limiting visitation on campus.**

**A. The following will be restricted from visiting on campus.**

- . If a person has signs or symptoms of respiratory infection, such as fever, cough, shortness of breath or sore throat.
- . In last 14 days a person has been in contact with someone with a confirmed diagnosis of COVID-19.
- . If the person has done International/national travel with 14 days and been in areas on sustained community transmission cannot visit campus.

**B. Limiting visitation means No individuals from the outside are to come on campus except for Essential Visitors - \*hospice, staff, doctors, family of declining residents. The responsibility of the SMRC is to limit the exposure of the virus for our elders.**

**C. The following is a partial list of changes for the next 30 days.**

- . Sunny's will be closed for residents and public.
- . Deliveries will be left on the dock & outdoors.
- . Our Guest Room in lobby will not be usable.
- . We plan to segregate our building to keep the residents on Nursing Care separate from the residents in Assisted Living and Independent Living.
- . Spouses that live in apartments on campus will not be allowed to visit their loved ones without special permission.
- . Discouraging larger gatherings – no kids, chapel speakers will be allowed in for an activity.
- . Part of the essential visits will include mail carriers, pharmacy carrier, UPS, Fed Ex meaning they will continue their services daily.

**This is a strange time globally so at SMRC we are trying to adapt to do our part in minimizing the spread of the coronavirus. Please be understanding with this temporary situation. If you have questions call: Keith Pankratz, Administrator 620-543-5671**

**Londa Tipton, Director of Nursing 620-543-5684**

**Debi Thompson, MDS Coordinator 620-543-5673**

**Charge Nurse, on weekends 620-899-9586**