



6/30/20 Update

Residents/Family/Friends/Staff,

The much-awaited announcement came on Monday (6/30/20) from Governor DeWine indicating that **OUTDOOR VISITATION COULD BE PERMITTED** for the Skilled Nursing Facility setting beginning on July 20, 2020.

While this is wonderful news, we need to acknowledge that the facility continues to be responsible for the health and well-being of those who reside here and as a result Governor DeWine indicated that a Skilled Nursing Facility ought to reference the CMS guidelines on visitation before launching a program targeting this topic. As part of assessing the feasibility of outdoor visitation, the Emergency Preparedness Committee will need to consider the following:

- status of Covid-19 in Hamilton County and the surrounding area
- status of Covid-19 within the facility
- staffing levels
- access to testing for Residents and Staff
- inventory of Personal Protective Equipment
- local hospital capacity

The press conference announcement is indeed important however we are still waiting on formal Ohio Department of Health guidelines for outdoor visitation and lifting of the current visitation order which still is in place. We expect that the guidance will be a general framework, emphasizing facility self-determination to tailor the outdoor visitation program to meet the unique needs of the facility.

Hamilton County is currently a hot spot for Covid-19 in Ohio. We encourage everyone to continue to implement best practices which include wearing a mask while out in public, social distancing from others and hand washing to help reduce the impact Covid-19 is currently having on our community.

While most of this update may come across as anti-climactic, our goal with communications has always been to present a reality-based assessment of how the pandemic is impacting the facility. We feel this has resulted in The Beechwood Home continuing to be Covid-19 free, which is not something many facilities are able to say. This is something we should all be proud of ourselves for and celebrated.

The Emergency Preparedness Committee has proactively been formulating an outdoor visitation program since mid-June and we are excited to launch this program when the time is right, which may indeed be on July 20<sup>th</sup>!

More details will be communicated as they become available.

As always if you have any questions/comments/concerns, please feel free to contact myself, Scot Harmon (Administrator) or Patricia Clark (CEO).

Sincerely,

Scot Harmon,  
Administrator

Patricia A. Clark, DM  
CEO, Administrator