

THE SUNRISER



Sunny Hill Nursing Home COVID-19 Testing Plan & Response Strategy

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On behalf of Sunny Hill's Administration and Administrative Staff, and the Will County Board, here's wishing you and your loved ones a very Happy Fourth of July!



Given their congregate setting and resident populations served (e.g., older adults often with underlying chronic medical conditions), nursing home populations are at the highest risk of being affected by COVID-19. If infected with SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19, residents are at increased risk of serious illness. Sunny Hill Nursing Home has developed a COVID-19 Testing Plan & Response Strategy, for all Residents, Families and Staff, per guidance from the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH).

Visitor Restrictions

SHNH has posted signs at entrances to the facility, restricting all visitors and visitation.

For the few visitors who are exceptions to visitor restriction (e.g. in end-of-life situations), facility carefully screens for COVID symptoms and restricts anyone (even in end-of-life situations) with fever, cough or shortness of breath or any COVID symptoms.

Healthy approved visitors will wear a face mask and confine their visit to the resident's room or other location designated by the facility.

When permitted, staff instructs visitors to use PPE mask, gown and gloves and perform hand hygiene; to limit their interactions with others in the facility; and to confine their visit to the resident's room or other location designated by the facility with only two visitors at a time being permitted.

SHNH advises visitors to monitor themselves for fever, cough, shortness of breath or any COVID-19 symptom for at least 14 days after visiting.

Sunny Hill Nursing Home provides alternate methods for visitation including video chats and window visits. Visits are prescheduled in advance and then coordinated and facilitated by staff.

Cessation of communal dining

Sunny Hill Nursing Home has canceled communal dining until further notice.

Residents are served their choice of meal from the dietary menu and eat in their rooms supervised by staff.



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Sunny Hill Administration:

Administrator Maggie McDowell, RN, LNHA
Assistant Administrator Jackie Palmer-Hosey, LNHA
Director of Nursing Debbie Stanko, RN
Assistant Director of Nursing Maureen McIntyre, RN
Assistant Director of Nursing Edita Evans, RN
Assistant Director of Nursing Kathie Miner, RN
Staff Development, Education & Infection Control Toni Fitch, RN

Director of Finance Shelly Felkins
Admissions/Marketing Coordinator Charlotte Mather

Director of Food & Nutrition Services Julie Cherrington, LD/RD

Director of Environmental Services Ray Vicha
Director of Life Engagement Danette Krieger
Maintenance Supervisor Tyler Bargas
Human Resources Manager Renee Herbst
FNS Manager Crystal Smith

Nursing Department

MDS Nurses: Marbe Flores, RN

Joanne Crowder, RN Lori Chancey, RN

Nursing Supervisors:

Skin Care Grace Bambule, RN
 Vivian Bibber, RN

House Nursing Supervisors:

Evangeline Ba-ad, RN Margarita Flores, RN
Milan Boril, RN Munawar Gill, RN
Jeniffer Calma, RN Kiely Lapaso, RN
Ferdinand Cantor, RN Alicia McLaughlin, RN
Ruth Eromosole, RN Mardy Mon-Alon, RN



The Sunrizer

Published four times yearly for the
 Family Members and Community Friends of
 Sunny Hill Nursing Home of Will County
 For more information, offer suggestions
 or submit materials,

contact Jackie Palmer-Hosey, Asst. Administrator
 815-774-4375

ADMINISTRATOR'S CORNER

Happy Summer everyone! Be careful out there with those high heat indexes and humidity. Fortunately, I am pleased to be the bearer of good news for a change! Currently, Sunny Hill has **NO** positive Covid-19 residents or staff cases. Based on our most recent **Point Prevalence Survey** results it appears like we have a clean slate and as a result a green light status to proceed to visitation. Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) finally issued guidelines for "**Outdoor Visitation for Long Term Care**" Recently, in person visitation may be allowed if certain conditions are met as follows:

- Limit of two visitors
- Maintain 6 ft distance
- Visitors must schedule an appointment to visit a resident
- Facility must prescreen visitors via phone and complete a symptom checklist not more than 24 hours in advance
- Screen visitors again on arrival
- Resident must be screened prior to visit also
- Visits can occur in outdoor areas **ONLY**
- Outdoor spaces must have ingress and egress
- Visitors **MUST NOT** enter the facility at any time
- Visitors must wear a face mask
- Facility may set the time duration of visit
- Staff supervision during each visit may be continuous or intermittent

We are blessed that we have extensive outdoor patios to facilitate this visitation prerequisite. We are ideally set up to accommodate multiple visits to occur simultaneously. Sunny Hill has prepared the Lower Level, largest patio for visitation. This includes weeding, mulching and general clean up with the addition of a few more tables and chairs to allow for the maximum visits at one time. These approaches and expectations are critical to maintaining ongoing resident, family and staff safety particularly in a congregate setting such as ours. I have also enclosed information relative to Sunny Hill Nursing Home of Will County's Policy and Procedure "**Renewed Visitation During Covid-19**" for reference.

At this juncture, Sunny Hill will recommence in person visitation as of **Monday, July 6th**.

It is vitally important that everyone follows the guidelines as regards six feet social distancing, wearing facemasks, no direct contact and screening process to maintain an environment as safe as possible for everyone.

Currently, IDPH has closed out our initial Covid-19 outbreak status. Testing will continue on a biweekly basis at this time. Remember that results reflecting **ONE** positive case denotes an outbreak situation. Sunny Hill continues to follow all guidelines and approaches as directed per WCHD, IDPH, CMS, and CDC, specifically, enhanced infection control precautions, screening practices, visitation restrictions, ongoing testing, limiting communal activities, wearing masks and social distancing.

May we all stay safe and blessed as we continue to navigate our journey and extend grateful thanks for each new day and pray for ongoing resilience, strength and wellness of our Sunny Hill family.

HAPPY JULY 4th EVERYONE!

Maggie McDowell

Administrator



MEMORIAL GIFTS

The following **MEMORIAL GIFTS** have been received by
THE FRIENDS OF SUNNY HILL.

The Families and Friends of these Residents and Loved Ones are in our
thoughts and prayers.

IRENE CARLSON

Joseph & Janet Ballerini
Lois DePorto
Mr. & Mrs. Anthony Dituri
Thomas & Linda Gay
The Herbst Family
James & Patricia Jensen
Ken & Laurie Koopman
Mr. & Mrs. Ray Kudra
Penny & Ricardo Ramos
Elena Reklaitis
Hugh & Cindy Stipan
Alfred & Karen Tediski
Bill & Carolyn Yorkman & Family

GLORIA FARKAS

Thomas & Karen Sorbero

MARGARET GIMBEL

Bill & Cherie Gimbel

MARGUERITE SHARP

Laurie Farkas
Danette Krieger
Margaret Sherpan
Thomas & Karen Sorbero

BERNADINE SIMANIS

Richard & Susan Simanis
Dembo Travel Consultants Inc.
Sheldon & Beth Gaffen
Elza & John Garnett
Dennis & Helen Migala
Richard Milne
Dr. Stephen & Mary Ann Scheiber

LAWRENCE WALSH

Thomas & Karen Sorbero

EVELYN VISSER

Jan Deckinga
Mr. & Mrs. John Dykstra
Lynn Tenkate

S.T.A.R. 
Spontaneous Thanks
and Recognition

The following staff members have
joined the ranks of those who are
going above and beyond the call of
duty and providing the best care
possible to our residents and Sunny
Hill. Department Heads, Supervisors
and Family Members have nominated
these employees since April 2020

Environmental Services

Kathleen Dressen

Finances

Mary Ann Evans

Food & Nutrition Services

John Turba

Life Engagement

Danette Krieger

Maintenance

David Bibber
Jaime Betencourt
Anthony Dedo
Sabar Gill
Dan Willis

Nursing

Christina Galvin
Andres Grizales
Demetria Grubbs
Carrie Gunning
Marilyn Hopman
LaTonya McMickle (2)
Rick McNeil
Rey Mercado
Kristi Rover

**ALL SUNNY
HILL STAFF**

“HOME IS WHERE THE HEART IS” CAMPAIGN DONORS

Randy & Susan Aneloski—Donation towards initial I-pad purchase

Christopher & Janet Lask—Donation towards initial I-pad purchase

Charles & Janice Pacente



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Cessation of Group Activities

Sunny Hill Nursing Home has canceled large group activities. Activity staff provides one on one interaction and engagement on the avenues. Residents who are COVID-19 negative by testing and asymptomatic enjoy outside patios adjacent to their avenue. Face masks, hand hygiene and social distancing of at least 6 feet is required. Staff monitors and coordinates compliance efforts with all guidelines.

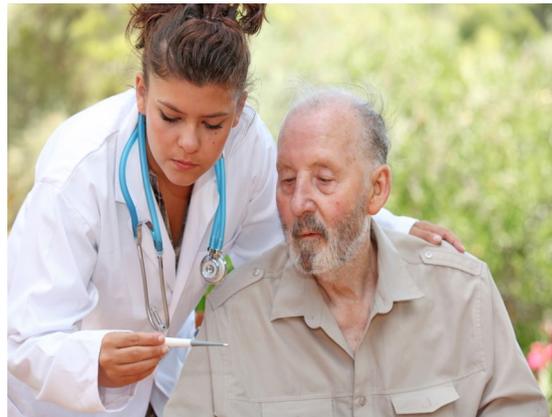
Screening Protocol for Residents

Sunny Hill Nursing Home has a policy and plan to assess residents for fever, cough, shortness of breath, sore throat and any COVID-19 symptoms every shift, upon re-admission, after hospitalization and throughout residents stay including a plan to monitor residents unable to communicate subjective symptoms.

Sunny Hill Nursing Home has a policy in place to ensure that residents with suspected respiratory infections are isolated timely and that appropriate personal protective equipment is utilized by staff to safeguard against potential exposure. (Refer to SHNH Infection Control P&P)

Sunny Hill Nursing Home maintains a list of symptomatic residents that includes:

- *Date of first symptom onset*
- *Date isolation commenced*



Additional actions are taken when COVID-19 is identified in the facility

- *Residents are restricted (to the extent possible) to their rooms except for medically necessary purposes. If residents leave their room a face mask is applied, hand hygiene is performed, movement is limited to Ave or outside patio and social distancing is required.*
- *Sunny Hill Nursing Home has implemented protocols for cohorting residents with COVID-19 and using dedicated health care workers to render care.*

Screening Protocols for Health Care Personnel

All staff (including consultant personnel) are screened at the beginning and midway during their shift for fever and COVID-19 symptoms (temperature is taken and documentation of presence or absence of fever / COVID -19 symptoms)

- *If staff are/become symptomatic, they are sent home immediately and referred to the Infection Preventionist.*
- *Sunny Hill Nursing Home restricts all non-essential individual, including volunteers and non-essential consultants from entering the building*
- *Face Masks are required to be worn by all residents and staff.*
- *Residents that leave the building for required medical appointments wear a mask. The COVID-19 status of resident is shared with the transportation services and whomever the resident has the appointment with. Residents are screened before they leave and after they return to the facility*

Required Training

Sunny Hill Nursing Home has provided initial and recurring training to staff regarding the following topics:

- *COVID-19 symptoms and mode of transmission*
- *Adherence to recommended infection control practices, including:*
 - Hand hygiene during interactions with residents and their environment*
 - Selection of appropriate PPE (personal protective equipment)*
 - Gloves and face protection (goggles or face shield)*
 - Face mask (surgical or procedural)*
 - N95 respirator mask with associated fit testing completed*
 - Gowns (disposable, reusable)*
- *Competency in correct donning and doffing of PPE*
- *Cleaning and disinfecting resident care equipment with appropriate EPA agent as recommended on the N list*
- *Any changes to usual policies or procedures in response to PPE or staffing shortages*
- *Specimen collection procedure*

Facility Design

Sunny Hill Nursing Home has a screening area as staff and personnel enter the facility for testing before commencing shift and coming in contact with residents.

Sunny Hill Nursing Home has a designated avenue for cohorting, managing and coordinating care for residents with positive COVID-19.

Sunny Hill Nursing Home has a dedicated wing for cohorting and managing care for new /readmissions with persons under investigation (PUI) status related to COVID -19.

Residents who test positive or who are under observation for COVID-19 are assigned to a private room.

Residents who are without symptoms may transfer back to their original room after 14 days of observation for the development of signs and symptoms of COVID-19.

Identified Laboratory/Specimen Collection

Sunny Hill Nursing Home has an agreement with Central Clinical Laboratories to conduct COVID-19 testing for both residents and staff. Sunny Hill Nursing Home has an occupational health provider, Physicians Immediate Care who undertakes new hire testing and testing of symptomatic employees.

Sunny Hill Nursing Home uses the IDPH lab in Chicago or Springfield, IL for all mass testing of employees and residents.

Test kits will be provided by Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) when coordinated and ordered by the Will County Health Department liaison.

Testing recommended is Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) type via anterior nares or nasopharyngeal sites. Results will be processed and available in 48-72 hours.



Identify Infections Early

Sunny Hill Nursing Home actively monitors all residents for the known primary symptoms of Covid-19, fever (>100 F or subjective) shortness of breath, new or change in cough, sore throat, muscle aches/pain, chills, headache, loss of taste/smell, diarrhea and vomiting.

- *Residents are screened twice daily for fever and respiratory symptoms*
- *Sunny Hill Nursing Home actively monitors all residents for the known primary symptoms of Covid-19, fever (>100 F or subjective) shortness of breath, new or change in cough, sore throat, muscle aches/pain, chills, headache, loss of taste/smell, diarrhea and vomiting. Staff are screened for fever and additional Covid-19 related symptoms of illness before starting each shift.*
- *If staff have a temperature of >100, or subjective symptoms (cough, shortness of breath, chills, headache, muscle pain, sore throat, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, abdominal pain, runny nose, fatigue or new loss of smell) Staff will separate themselves from others, be sent home and be required to test for COVID-19.*
- *If staff member is confirmed positive for COVID-19 the infection prevention nurse will report all positive cases to the Will County Health (WCHD) and Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH).*
- *Employee will be required to quarantine for 14 days and contact their primary care physician.*
- *Employee will not return to work until symptom free for 14 days and 3days without fever reducing medication.*
- *Employee will undergo COVID 19 testing with 2 negative results \geq 24 hours apart and present a note to the Human Resources Department from their physician before returning to work. If the employee cannot get tested by their physician the Sunny Hill Nursing Home infection prevention nurse will test the employee.*

COVID-19 Outbreak Testing

- *All staff and residents will receive a baseline testing called a “Point Prevalence Survey” (PPS) and results will be reported to the Will County Health Department (WCHD) and Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) agency.*
- *Physician order for testing will be obtained for the resident with a verbal consent initially based on visitor restrictions in place. As restrictions are lifted written consent will be obtained for any further testing needed.*
- *Continue repeat testing of all previous negative residents and employees until the testing identifies no new cases of COVID-19 among residents or staff over at least 14 days since the most recent positive case or as directed by the State and Will County Health Departments.*
- *Residents determined to be positive will be placed on Contact/Droplet precautions immediately.*
- *Any staff that refuses testing will be taken off the schedule and will not return to work until testing is complete .*
- *Any residents refusing testing will be considered to be a positive status and appropriate steps followed.*

- *Facility RN staff, who have demonstrated competency will undertake specimen collection at specified intervals for residents and staff.*

Personal Protective Equipment

SHNH continually monitors and assesses the supply of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and other critical materials. Current supply of items needed to collect respiratory specimen virus testing (including COVID-19 and influenza)

Synthetic fiber swabs with plastic shaft

Transport Media

Biohazard bags

If shortages of PPE or testing supplies are identified or anticipated, Sunny Hill Nursing Home will obtain available resources from healthcare partners and local public health authorities

Alcohol based hand rub with 65%-95% alcohol is available in every resident room and common areas

Sinks are stocked with ample supplies of soap and paper towels and are accessible to residents and staff

PPE is available in all resident-care areas outside resident room if they are on isolation, contact/droplet precautions. PPE includes head cover, gowns, gloves, facemasks, N95 respirator mask (employees are fit tested) eye protection (face shield or goggles) and shoe covers. Facemasks are acceptable when N95 masks are not available

EPA-registered hospital-grade disinfectants, listed on the N list, with an emerging viral pathogens claim against SARS-CoV-2 are available for frequent cleaning of high touched surfaces and shared resident-care equipment.

Tissues are available in common areas and resident rooms for respiratory hygiene, cough etiquette and source control. Residents are instructed to use tissues once and discard appropriately. Residents are reminded to cover their cough and to wear face coverings when outside of their rooms.

Communication

The Sunny Hill Nursing Home administrator communicates with families and staff via a Call-Em-All system. This method of notification sends out an automated robo call.

- *This process is completed when immediate need exists for sharing of relevant updates or changing information.*
- *This means of communication occurs at minimum weekly or more often if the situation requires.*
- *Routine calls are undertaken by unit staff related to COVID-19 updates, changes in care/condition and testing.*
- *Sunny Hill Nursing Home complies with all reporting requirements within the stipulated timeframes.*
- *Residents are updated regarding changing information via personal notices issues, Touchtown postings, Resident Council updates, and facility newsletter (Gazette).*
- *Additionally, updates are shared via the following means and methods, including the family newsletter (The Sunriser), staff newsletter (Staff Connections) and other social media alternatives such as Facebook and webpage.*





THE LEADER IN RESIDENT CENTERED CARE AND ACTIVE LIVING

421 Doris Avenue
Joliet, IL 60433

Phone: 815-727-8710
Fax: 815-774-4379
Email: sunnyhill@willcountyillinois.com
www.willcountyillinois.com/sunnyhill

Find us on Facebook !
Search Sunny Hill Nursing Home and "like" us today.
You will find the most current information on what's
happening here at Sunny Hill.

We need your e-mail address! Please stop by reception or call
us at 815-727-8710 with your information.

SUNNY HILL'S WISH LIST!

- Bird feeders*
- Bird seed (black oiler sunflowers) for outdoor feeders*
- Large print books*
- Current magazines*
- 300 and 500 piece puzzles*
- Fast food gift cards*
- Soft snacks*

Call Danette Krieger, Life Engagement Director at 815-727-8711 with any questions



CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

July 2020

- 4 Independence Day**
- 24 International Self-Care Day**
- 30 International Day of Friendship**

August 2020

- 19 National Aviation Day**
- 19 World Humanitarian Day**

September 2020

- 7 Labor Day**
- 13 Grandparents Day**
- 13-19 Environmental Services & Housekeeping Week**
- 21 World Alzheimer's Day**
- 29 World Heart Day**

