

Memorandum

From the desk of Lisa M. Marsilio

To: All Residents, Families of Health Center Residents, Staff Members, Board Members, and Families of the Early Learning Center at Kendal~Crosslands Communities

From: Lisa M. Marsilio, Chief Executive Officer

Date: April 29, 2021

COVID Updates and Recommendations

This week, the Pennsylvania Department of Health (PA DOH) followed the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and updated their guidance that allows fully vaccinated persons the opportunity for relaxed mask-wearing.

The new guidance ***does not apply*** to Health Center residents since various agencies regulate the centers with different recommendations.

As more persons are vaccinated, and as more science emerges on those fully vaccinated, we continue our hopeful path to regular life in our community.

New guidelines for fully vaccinated persons to participate in outdoor activities without a mask:

- Walk, run, hike, or bike outdoors with others
- Gather in small (up to 20 people* - see page 2) groups outdoors and participate in outdoor activities (such as meals, bocce, tennis, putting green, croquet, etc.) with fully vaccinated family and friends
- Attend a small (up to 20 people) outdoor gathering with fully vaccinated and unvaccinated people
- Dine at an outdoor restaurant with friends from multiple households

However, for now, fully vaccinated people are still advised to continue to:

- Wear a well-fitted mask in indoor public settings (such as the grocery store, the mall, **our main centers, the maintenance center**, etc.)
- When visiting indoors with unvaccinated people who may be at an increased risk for severe COVID-19 disease, wear a well-fitted mask.
- Wear well-fitted masks when visiting indoors with unvaccinated people from multiple households.
- Avoid indoor large-sized, in-person gatherings
- Continue to wear a mask at outdoor crowded settings and venues (such as sports events, parades, festivals, farmer's markets, etc.)

On the CDC website is a chart that provides additional guidance on activities for vaccinated and unvaccinated persons. Click here to review.

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/fully-vaccinated-guidance.html>

Please note, the CDC continues to recognize that unvaccinated people are at a higher risk of infection and spreading COVID-19, even at some outdoor gatherings. Thus, if you, your family, friends, visitors are not vaccinated, the recommendation is that they should continue to wear their masks. We trust all residents and staff members will monitor the vaccination status of themselves, their family, and friends and comply with all safety measures

KCC Campus Opening Guideline Changes

Number of persons to gather outdoors*

We find no definitive CDC or Department of Health guidance on 'small' for purposes of the relaxed outdoor mask guidelines. KCC campus outdoor activity guidelines now allow up to 20 persons who may gather outdoors for meals, social gatherings, games, hikes, etc.

Overnight stays in your home

We are pleased to announce that if you and your family or friends are fully vaccinated, they may stay overnight in your cottage or apartment. At this juncture, the Farmhouse and Ellerslie are not permitted for overnight accommodations use, and guests are not allowed in our main centers.

Number of persons in your home

We are pleased to announce you may have up to 10 fully vaccinated people in your home for socializing, card playing, book clubs, etc.

Standard Safety Guidelines

Please remember to follow our ongoing infection control practices such as:

- Outdoor gatherings are always safest
- If you are not well, stay home; if your family or friends are not well, avoid gathering at this time
- Keep a personal log of persons you are gathering with, inclusive of names, dates, place, and length of visit in case infections and contact tracing occurs

Positivity Rate

We continue to monitor the local positivity rate, and as of this week, it continues to be above 8% (which is concerning). Based on PA DOH guidelines, weekly testing of our staff members who regularly work in our Health Centers continues. Although we are hopeful to see the beginning of a slight drop in positive cases in Pennsylvania, our opening practices will continue to be methodical until the rate drops, ideally below 5%.

Health Center Visitations

For residents in our Health Centers, vaccinations provide outdoor visits with family and friends, group activities, and dining options. As stated, our policies and practices on mask-wearing ***have not changed***. After consultation with our Medical Director, ***masks must still be worn, even outdoors***. Over the past two weeks, residents started to participate in non-medical outings with family.

Vaccination Clinic

We are happy to report we held a small vaccination clinic with our partner, CPS Pharmacy. Several additional staff members and residents were inoculated. We are pleased to say we are trending slightly over 90% of staff vaccinated. Getting vaccinated provides the most proven protection for yourself against the virus, and as we are now experiencing, freedoms from restrictions.

International Travel

International travel poses additional infection risks, and even fully vaccinated travelers are at an increased chance of getting and possibly spreading new COVID-19 variants. Even if you are fully vaccinated, please continue to follow CDC's recommendations for traveling safely. According to CDC, you do not need to get tested before leaving the United States unless your destination requires it. All air passengers returning to the United States, including those who are fully vaccinated, must have a negative COVID-19 test result. When you return to any of our campuses, you must self-quarantine for 14 days. Please coordinate the quarantine process with Resident Care.

Coming Soon

As stated in our Zoom presentation a week ago, we will continue to revisit all KCC opening activities every two weeks. The operational teams are reviewing, as one example, indoor gathering numbers, and we will communicate the updates to you on a timely basis.

We continue to live through this historic pandemic while experiencing a real-life study on the medical achievement of the vaccine. Recommendations from all agencies are fluid, and we receive updates almost daily. Our operational teams are pivoting just as quickly, and I am proud of our work to keep everyone safe. Although some guidelines may not come as soon as we like, they are in a positive direction. We continue to be cautious, and I appreciate your kindness and patience.

Lastly, I am sure you join me as we *keep in the light* the health and human tragedy other countries are experiencing. The devastation this horrible virus ensues to others is heartbreaking. As variants keep spreading, this pandemic is far from over until our whole world is safe.

In health,



Lisa M. Marsilio
Chief Executive Officer
Kendal~Crosslands Communities



CC: Donna Taylor, Chief Health Services Officer, Dr. Thomas E. Lawrence, MD, Medical Director, Richard Wortmann, Board Clerk