

To: All Visitors

FROM: Suzanne Hogan, Administrator

DATE: February 15, 2023

RE: Updated Covid Requirements for Visitors

The NYS Department of Health issued new guidelines for nursing home visitation. To that end, effective Wednesday, February 15, Bellhaven Center has updated the requirements as follows:

COVID TESTING is still required for all visitors to nursing homes in New York State. The self-testing area in the lobby will remain in place and all visitors, including children, will be required to show the receptionist a negative test result prior to being allowed into the building.

MASKS; N95 masks will no longer be required, however, all staff and visitors must wear paper surgical masks (or their own non-cloth mask) at all times while visiting inside the building. The NYS Department of Health allows Bellhaven to make this decision and we have done so with the intention of protecting our medically-fragile population. This masking requirement will be reviewed periodically and changed as needed.

Please be reminded that in a community setting such as this, our decisions must be based on the safety and best interests of the entire resident population, not just the one person you are coming to see. Regardless of your personal feelings on these matters, the cooperation of every visitor is expected.

As always, we sincerely appreciate your support in these matters. Should you have any questions, please let me know.