MDH released new guidance on opening nursing homes up for general indoor visits (in the resident room). This would be in addition to our Essential Caregivers (those that had to apply in writing to enter the facility) and end of life Compassionate care visits. After we all have worked so hard to tighten things up and keep COVID out, for the most part, we now need to begin the journey of safely easing up on some of the required restrictions we have all come accustom to. **Please know we are working on the many steps we need to take to make this happen and we plan to be ready to allow these starting Wednesday, March 24, 2021.**Visitors may begin calling to schedule visits starting Monday, March 22, 2021.

Things Visitors will need to know:

* All visits will need to be scheduled through our TR department by calling 507-864-7714 (Including Essential Caregiver visits)
* If you were already an Essential Caregiver with a set visiting schedule, these will automatically be put on the schedule. No need to call.
* Visits are open to family and/or friends.
* 2 visitors may visit 1 resident at the same time in the resident’s room.
* There is technically no time limit in the guidelines on how long visitors can be in the building, however, we are asking that visitors limit their visit to 2 hours or less to allow everyone a chance to have a visitor.
* All visitors must be screened upon entry (doors will remain locked)
* No drop in visits. Staff will have a copy of the schedule and if you are not on the schedule, you will be directed to contact the TR department and denied entry.
* Weekend visits are allowed but must also be scheduled. Weekend visits must be scheduled by 3pm Friday. (again, this does not start until March 24th)
* Requests to schedule a visit will not be taken on the weekend. Call TR M-F by 3pm.
* Adults must wear a well-fitting surgical mask which we will provide.
* Children are allowing only if they are old enough to follow the same guidelines as adults ie. able to wear a mask/keep it on throughout the entire visit, not eat/drink during the visit, maintain social distancing as able, use hand sanitizer, etc. The adult they are with will be responsible for ensure they follow the guidance. Children may wear their own well-fitting pediatric size mask (cloth or surgical). GS will not supply pediatric size masks. Children do count as 1 of the 2 visitors allowed at one time.
* When able, visitors should social distance a minimum of six feet from the resident and staff
* Visitors no longer need to be escorted to/from the resident’s room. Note: the front door will remain locked so people may need to wait by the door or find someone to let them out. We will not be giving out the code – a staff member must open the door.
* The front main entrance is the only entry/exit for visitors.
* Restrooms will still be for residents and staff only. Please plan accordingly.
* All Guidelines apply to All visitors regardless of their vaccination status.

Note: If we have a positive case of COVID-19 in either a resident or staff member, these visits will be cancelled with little to no notice.