



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND HEALTH SERVICES
Aging and Long-Term Support Administration
PO Box 45600, Olympia, Washington 98504-5600

April 7, 2020

ALTSA: AFH #2020-012
ALTSA: ALF #2020-014
ALTSA: NH #2020-016
ALTSA: CCRSS #2020-009
ALTSA: ICF/IID #2020-010
ALTSA: ESF #2020-009

PROCLAMATION 20-16 AND END OF LIFE SITUATIONS

Dear Provider/Administrator/Superintendent:

On March 16, 2020, the governor issued [Proclamation 20-16](#), which amended [Proclamation 20-06](#) to prohibit owners, administrators, operators, staff, contractors, and volunteers of a facility, including friends or family to visit a resident. However, the proclamation specifically states the prohibition on visitation **does not apply to the following**:

- End of life situations, including, but not limited to, families and hospice staff
- Visits by attorneys, administrative law judges, advocates or similar persons who represent a resident
- Vendors or volunteers who supply or work in a facility
- Health care teams such as doctors, behavioral health providers, hospice and home health staff so that care and service needs of residents are met
- Department of Social and Health Services staff, including staff from the Developmental Disabilities Administration and Aging and Long-Term Support Administration

All visitors who enter a facility, **excluding emergency responders who are screened when they start work and are wearing PPE, and need immediate access to the facility**, must meet the following prohibitions and requirements set out in Proclamation 20-06:

- Persons visiting in end of life situations must be screened and may not be allowed to enter a long-term care facility if they show *signs or symptoms* of COVID-19.
- Visitors who meet the prohibition exemptions above must show identification, sign into a visitor's log that includes date, time in and time out, and provide their name and contact information, including phone number and email address if available.
- Operators and staff are prohibited from destroying each day's visitor log for 30 days.
- Staff and volunteers are prohibited from working or volunteering unless screened at the start of every shift and do not show *symptoms* associated with COVID-19.

Residents under a recommendation or order from the Washington State Department of Health (DOH) or the local health jurisdiction for isolation or quarantine for COVID-19 must be isolated in their rooms. A resident can choose to discharge from the facility at any time.

Staff and volunteers are prohibited from disclosing protected and confidential information except as provided by law or with the consent of the resident.

Symptoms of COVID-19

- Fever of 100.4 or higher
- Cough
- Difficulty breathing

Transmission Risks

- Contact with a person with a confirmed diagnosis of COVID-19 in the last 14 days
- Contact with a person under investigation for COVID-19

Facilities should be checking with employees regarding any confirmed or suspected outbreaks at any other potential place of employment.

Sincerely,



Candace Goehring, Director
Residential Care Services

DSHS: *"Transforming Lives"*