



Advancing the Art of Living.

March 26, 2021

Dear Family Member,

The holiday guidance from the New Jersey Department of Health arrived just moments ago. We know many of you have been asking for this guidance and here are the key points:

1. “The DOH strongly recommends against families taking residents out of facilities for holiday celebration events or gatherings in particular if those residents are not fully vaccinated.” The guidelines go on to say that elders are still at risk and that it is recommended to limit their exposure to anyone who is not vaccinated. They also reference the fact that the CDC identified “small family gatherings as being a primary driver for case surges.”
2. They suggest that families focus, instead, on outdoor visits to their loved ones rather than taking them out of the facility where they reside.
3. If you do take your loved one to a gathering outside of the facility, a risk assessment will need to be conducted on each individual elder on their return. Individuals who are not vaccinated, or not fully vaccinated, will be required to be in quarantine for 14 days after their return. Individuals who are fully vaccinated will not be quarantined unless they are exposed to someone who tests positive for COVID-19.
4. Anyone who is taking an elder out will be required to sign an informed consent, as will the elder. This consent not only details infection control practices and details the risks but also requires that the facility be notified immediately should anyone present at the family gathering test positive for COVID.
5. Anyone taking an elder out must make prior arrangements with the facility.

While this new guidance does provide more opportunities for families to be with their loved ones, there are still many cautions we must all recognize. Bringing an elder into a setting with others who are not vaccinated may put them at risk. Even if everyone is vaccinated, all infection control protocols including masking and handwashing must be followed.

Hope that this is helpful. We wish you a joyous Passover.

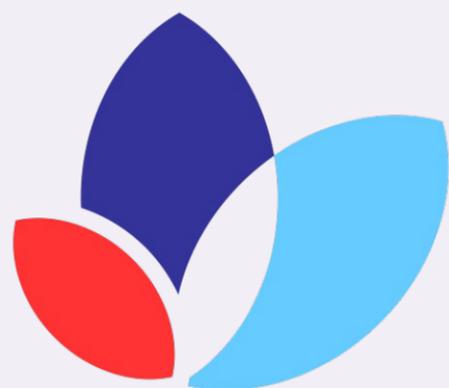
Be well,



Carol Silver Elliott
President and CEO
The Jewish Home Family



Dr. Harvey Gross
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The Jewish
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