

For the November 17, 2021 COVID-19 positive test report, we have one new Nursing Facility staff member test positive for COVID-19 and we have not had three or more residents or staff with new onset of respiratory symptoms occurring within 72 hours of each other. Thankfully, through contact tracing, we determined that there were no prolonged and close contacts that this Nursing Facility staff member had with any residents during their infectious period.

Cumulatively since October 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2021 we have a total of:

Classification of person:	Nursing Facility Staff	Personal Care Home Staff	Healthcare partners	Nursing Facility Residents	Personal Care Home Residents
Number that tested positive for COVID-19:	6	2	1	14	0

Therefore, cumulatively to date since March 2020 we have a total of:

Classification of person:	Nursing Facility Staff	Personal Care Home Staff	Healthcare partners	Nursing Facility Residents	Personal Care Home Residents
Number that tested positive for COVID-19:	82	19	5	73	31

Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) recently updated their guidance on Nursing Home visitation and their guidance on the Core Principles of COVID-19 Infection Prevention. These Core Principles include:

- Visitors who have a positive viral test for COVID-19, symptoms of COVID-19, or currently meet the criteria for quarantine (defined below), should not enter the facility. The need to **quarantine** is when you might have been exposed to the COVID-19 virus. We will screen all who enter St. Anne Home for these visitation exclusions.
- Hand hygiene (use of alcohol-based hand rub is preferred)
- Face covering or mask (covering mouth and nose) and physical distancing at least six feet between persons, in accordance with CDC guidance
- Instructional signage throughout the facility and proper visitor education on COVID-19 signs and symptoms, infection control precautions, other applicable facility practices (e.g., use of face covering or mask, specified entries, exits and routes to designated areas, hand hygiene)
- Cleaning and disinfecting high-frequency touched surfaces in the facility often, and designated visitation areas after each visit
- Appropriate staff use of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)
- Effective cohorting of residents (e.g., separate areas dedicated to COVID-19 care)
- Resident and staff testing conducted as required by CMS and the Pennsylvania Department of Health.

Per current CMS guidance visitation is now allowed for all residents at all times at St. Anne Home provided the above Core Principles of COVID-19 Infection Prevention are followed. If a resident's roommate is unvaccinated or immunocompromised (regardless of vaccination status), visits should NOT be conducted in the resident's room, if possible.

Please be aware that Westmoreland County's COVID-19 level of community transmission is currently high. **Given the high community transmission occurring visitors are encouraged to be tested on their own before coming to the facility. If you feel you were might have been exposed to COVID-19 and meet the criteria for quarantine you will not be permitted to visit.** Since the county's COVID-19 community level of transmission is high, all residents and visitors, regardless of vaccination status, should wear face coverings or masks and physically distance, at all times

**All visitors are strongly encouraged to become vaccinated against COVID-19.** St. Anne Home will be asking visitors about their vaccination status on the updated screening tool, however per CMS visitors are not required to be tested or vaccinated (or show proof of such) as a condition of visitation. If the visitor declines to disclose their vaccination status, the visitor should wear a face covering or mask at all times.

Currently, St. Anne Home is conducting Outbreak testing. Per CMS an Outbreak is defined as when a new nursing home onset of COVID-19 occurs (i.e., a new COVID-19 case among residents or staff). Please be aware that there is the potential risk of becoming positive with COVID-19 when visiting during an outbreak investigation and, as with all visits, you must adhere to the core principles of infection prevention listed above. If residents or their representative would like to have a visit during an outbreak investigation, they should wear face coverings or masks during visits, regardless of vaccination status, and visits should ideally occur in the resident's room if the resident lives in a private room.

Criteria for quarantine is if you have been in close contact (within 6 feet of someone for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period) with someone who has COVID-19, unless you have **been fully vaccinated**. People who are fully vaccinated do NOT need to quarantine after contact with someone who had COVID-19 unless they have symptoms. However, fully vaccinated people should get tested 5-7 days after their exposure, even if they don't have symptoms and wear a mask indoors in public for 14 days following exposure or until their test result is negative. For more information on quarantining please see the CDC web site.

\* In general, people are considered **fully vaccinated** means:

- 2 weeks after their second dose in a 2-dose series, such as the Pfizer or Moderna vaccines, or
- 2 weeks after a single-dose vaccine, such as Johnson & Johnson's Janssen vaccine

If you don't meet these requirements, regardless of your age, you are NOT fully vaccinated. Keep taking all precautions until you are fully vaccinated.

We will continue to provide you with regular updates about the situation and will promptly notify you if we identify any additional residents or staff with confirmed COVID-19. We encourage you to contact us with questions and concerns. Please call us at 724-837-6070 or visit our website at [www.stannehome.org](http://www.stannehome.org) for updates. Our entire care team is here to serve you and answer your questions. Thank you for your continued support and confidence in the care and services St. Anne Home provides to you and or your loved one. The safety of our residents and staff is our top priority.