



The PULSE

COVID-19

Major visitation changes take effect today

Effective March 7, 2022, a number of visitation restrictions at CHCC have been lifted in accordance with new guidance from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services and the Washington State Department of Health. The new guidance was released in the state's "Long Term Care COVID Response" document dated Feb. 23.

The LTC COVID Response document states that we are now allowed to ease visitation restrictions and facilitate all in person visits consistent with the applicable CMS regulations.

It is with great caution that we ease the restrictions that have protected our residents during the pandemic, and we hope you'll work with us to make this transition a safe experience for everyone who lives and works here.

An important reminder: Christian Health Care Center and all



long-term care centers operate under more restrictive guidelines than other businesses and organizations. While indoor mask mandates may be lifted in Washington state this month, those mandates do not apply to those entering health care centers. Masking is still a requirement for all staff and visitors.

In the past week, we have updated our visitation policy and worked to adjust systems and educate our staff about the changes. Below you will find a selection of highlights from the visitation policy. For a complete overview of the policy, please visit chcclyn-

*Please see **Visitation** on Page 4*

LIFE AT CHCC

Veterans Wall to honor those who served

Christian Health Care Center proudly supports our veterans. Each and every one of them and their families have paid enormous sacrifices for our freedom, and we will always be thankful.

To help give veterans living or working at CHCC the recognition and respect they have earned, we have installed a Veterans Wall, which features a framed photo of veterans who choose to participate.

For placement on the Veterans Wall, we are collecting photos of everyone currently living or working at CHCC who has served in the U.S. Armed Forces. Please consider submitting a photo — digital or print — of your loved one in uniform during their service time.

Send digital images to Maddie

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Like or share CHCC's Facebook posts with your friends and family to help others learn about job openings, volunteer opportunities, donation requests and more.

facebook.com/christianhealthcare

OUR CODE OF CONDUCT IS ALWAYS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY



IN EVERY ASPECT OF YOUR WORK, YOU MUST FOLLOW OUR CODE OF CONDUCT. ALL OF US MUST REPORT ANY SUSPECTED VIOLATIONS. IT IS ESSENTIAL TO PROTECT OUR MISSION, OUR RESIDENTS AND OUR EMPLOYEES.

This CHCC compliance tip features Happy M's dog Murphy.

CHCC is committed to compliant, ethical behavior and the provision of quality care. Employees and all others directly or indirectly serving CHCC residents must abide by our Code of Conduct at all times. For more information, visit <https://chcclynden.org/compliance/>.

NEW HIRES

Two team members join CHCC



Mani C.
Hospitality Aide



Lihau K.
NAC

Mani and Lihau have stepped into important roles at Christian Health Care Center in the areas of hospitality and nursing. When you see them, please welcome them with a smile. And remember, anytime you see team members with green on their nametags, you'll know they are new — so give a warm welcome!

Help recruit NACs, earn up to \$500

We need your help recruiting certified nursing assistants. Please encourage any kind and friendly nursing assistants you know to apply. If they get hired at CHCC, you can earn a referral bonus!

SPECIAL DAYS



Daylight savings time ends

Remember to spring forward early on Sunday, March 13.



Wear green March 17

Remember that Thursday, March 17, is St. Patrick's Day. Wear green and stop by the potato bar for a delicious meal.



Spring starts Sunday, March 20

Wear rainbow colors to work March 19 to 21 to celebrate the arrival of spring!

KNOW BETTER, DO BETTER

THE WORLD IS NOT YOUR ASHTRAY

Cigarette butts are the single most littered item around the entire globe.

Each butt you toss can take up to 10 years to decompose.

If you must smoke on CHCC property, always put your cigarette butts in an ashtray (including the one in your car) or designated bin.

THANK YOU!

Staff feedback: Can we do anything to stop littering the parking lot with cigarette butts? CHCC and the surrounding area are our second home, and we should all take care of it. Some parking spaces are covered with cigarette butts, and it doesn't look aesthetically nice when you get out of the car.

LIFE AT CHCC



Western Washington University grads and interns positively impact the lives of our residents every day. We're grateful for WWU and all educational programs in our community. Pictured here is the t-rec team of Maddie H. (2020 WWU grad), Kaitlin G. (2015), and current intern Emily M. (2022).

VISITATION

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den.org/alert/.

- CHCC will continue to follow federal, state and local health departments' infection control guidelines to reduce the risk of COVID-19 transmission.

- Visitation hours are 9 a.m. to 9 p.m., seven days per week.

- Visitors will be screened for symptoms and exposure to COVID-19.

- Visitors will use alcohol-based hand rub upon entry, remain 6 feet away from staff and other residents and always wear a well-fitting mask (surgical or N95) when inside CHCC, including when they are alone in a resident's room.

- Regardless of vaccination status, CHCC will strongly advise residents to wear a mask or other face covering and to social distance.

- Outdoor visits are preferred and should be considered whenever practicable. Visits by phone and remote video technology are encouraged.

- Visitors will walk directly to and from the resident's room or designated visitation area — approaching and engaging only with the person they are visiting.

- Transitioning between two or more rooms is not permitted at this time. If visiting more than one resident, the visits will occur at separate times.

- If there is a room where one or more of the residents is unvaccinated or immunocompromised, or if a roommate does not want visitors in their room, visits will take place in a designated space outside of that room.

- The length of visits is no longer limited if physical distancing can be maintained, and if the visit poses no risk to or infringes upon other residents' rights. There may be times when a person is asked to end their visit so the resident's roommate can welcome their visitors or if another resident is waiting to use a designated visiting area.

- Visits can occur in the resident's room if their roommate agrees, and if the visitors are able to maintain a six-foot distance from the roommate and all staff members. For this reason, please try to come alone or in small groups (fewer than four people).

- If the resident and their visitor(s) are up to date with all recommended COVID-19 vaccine

doses, while alone in the resident's room or the designated visitation room, the resident may choose to have close contact, including touch.

- Large group gatherings are not allowed at this time.

- If visiting someone in quarantine or transmission-based precautions, the visitor will wear full personal protective equipment, including a KN95 or N95 mask, gloves, gown and goggles or a face shield.

- All high touch surfaces in shared visitation areas will be sanitized between visits.

- Visitors are discouraged from using any restroom in the building. If they use a restroom, they will notify staff so the restroom can be sanitized.

- With prior approval (call 360-354-4434), pets on a leash or in a carrier are permitted during visits. If the resident touches the pet, hand hygiene will be necessary when they are done.

- On occasion, the Whatcom County Health Department asks us to pause in-person visits. Visitors will be notified as soon as possible if that happens on a scheduled visit day.

VETERANS

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Holmes at mholmes@chcclynden.org. Prints can be dropped off at CHCC or mailed to the attention of our therapeutic recreation department at 855 Aaron Drive, Lynden, WA 98264.

Ideally, the print image you

submit should be 8x10 in size, but smaller sizes will be accepted. Please only submit prints that you don't need returned.

Thank you for helping us honor the wonderful men and women who have served our country.

