



# RESIDENT HANDBOOK

## The Tradition of Caring Continues

*You are receiving a copy of CHCC's resident handbook because you or a loved one is or will soon be receiving care here. Please direct any questions you may have to a member of our care team listed below. Our phone number is 360-354-4434.*

## MISSION STATEMENT

Christian Health Care Center is a nonprofit skilled nursing center. Our mission is to provide skilled health care services with compassion and love in Christ's name. To fulfill our mission, we pledge to:

- Provide a comprehensive range of health, behavioral, pastoral, and supportive services without regard to age, religion, race, color, disability, sex, or national origin.
- Communicate to all concerned that addressing the needs of patients, residents, clients, and their families is our primary objective.
- Recognize the importance of providing quality care that meets or exceeds the generally accepted standards of the community, in an efficient and cost-effective

manner.

- Uphold our charitable mission and strive to assure access to our services by all those in need, while maintaining financial integrity.
- Provide a safe and well-maintained physical environment.
- Offer health promotion services and educational programs to the community.
- Evaluate the needs of those we serve to determine if the existing array of services should be modified or expanded.
- Work cooperatively with appropriate service agencies, as well as churches and other religious organizations, to assure that community needs are met.

Our executive director is responsible for guiding Christian Health Care Center in ways that align with its mission.

## MEET THE TEAM



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# ROOM FURNISHINGS

## Living Standards

Semi-private rooms have two beds, a shared bathroom, and individual closet spaces. The following basic furnishings are provided:

- Bed and overbed table
- TV
- Chair
- Small chest of drawers
- Bedside stand
- Wardrobe

While every effort is made to provide a home-like atmosphere, certain standards must be maintained to safeguard the well-being of all residents. These standards, which relate to safety, infection control, and resident rights to private personal space, require CHCC to adhere to the following principles:

- Maintain approximately 3 feet between beds as well as between the ends of beds and the opposite wall or furniture.
- Obstacles that hinder quick and easy access into and out of the room are not allowed.
- There may be nothing on top of the overhead light fixture, on top of the wardrobe or on the PTAC heater.
- Your possessions must be contained to your part of the room.
- Personal furniture:
  - Chairs must be assessed for safety and approved by nursing staff and they may not exceed available space, generally 32 inches deep and 27 inches wide. Recliners and/or stuffed chairs with non-porous fabric (leather or vinyl) will be allowed in

rooms if space allows. Cloth chairs will not be allowed. Plastic-covered chairs are OK.

- Must have a clean, smooth finish.
- Must be sturdy and in good repair.
- Television sets must be on sturdy stands and may require a headset or pillow speaker.
- Items to be hung on the walls are to be reviewed for safety and affixed by environmental services. Personal possessions may not be stored under the bed, on floor space, or above the closets.
- Electrical items:
  - Extension cords, electric blankets, and electrical appliances such as hot plates, coffee pots, refrigerators and toasters are not allowed.
  - All electrical items such as TV, radio, power strips, fans, etc., must be checked for safety and tagged by environmental services staff prior to use.
- Scatter rugs are not permitted.
- All food stored must be kept in an airtight container.
- Each wing has a common refrigerator with limited space for your personal food items. Each item must be marked with your name and dated. Please be aware that we are required to dispose of food items after three days.
- No live or cut fir, pine, evergreen or holly is allowed in the care center. Electrical string lights are not allowed, unless on a small artificial or ceramic tree.

If you wish to bring personal furnishings to your room, you must have them approved by environmental services prior to placement in the room. Nursing or social service staff will contact environmental services at your request.

All personal items must be reported to the nursing staff to be labeled with your name and entered on the Personal Possessions Record form.

Personal articles that are considered unsafe, interfere with effective housekeeping, violate infection control policy or safety standards, contribute to room damage or odor, or infringe upon space or personal rights of others will not be allowed. If such items are found, you or your representative will be advised to remove the item(s) in a prompt and timely manner. The environmental services supervisor has authority to make these determinations. If the item(s) have not been removed within 30 days of notification, CHCC reserves the right to dispose of the item(s).

## LIFE AT CHCC

### Quick Reference

#### Visitation.

Depending on guidance from federal, state and local health authorities, visitors may at times be required to use alcohol-based hand rub upon arrival and wear a well-fitting mask (provided at entry) when inside CHCC. Signs will be posted at each entrance when these and any other precautions are required.

Visits by family members and friends are very important and are encouraged; visiting hours are 9 a.m. to 9 p.m., seven days a week, and other times are flexible per your desires.

To safeguard the health of all residents, we ask that those with communicable diseases or exposure to communicable diseases not visit. We will try to accommodate residents and visitors with privacy and space. The conference room, sunroom, and library are available for larger groups. Children are welcome when a responsible adult supervises them.

Visitors are expected to observe CHCC's no smoking policy.

Residents, staff, visitors and volunteers are always welcome to wear a mask, if desired. CHCC will provide masks if needed.

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#### Video visits, email and other forms of communication.

CHCC can help you stay connected with your family and friends while you are receiving care here. Please see the Connect & Communicate page near the end of this handbook to learn about in-person visits, video chats, resident email and more.



Recommended: Residents, their friends and designated representatives can receive important alerts and communications from CHCC by following us on Facebook ([facebook.com/christianhealthcare](https://www.facebook.com/christianhealthcare)) and by subscribing to our eNews, currently published monthly. An opt-in form can be found on the bottom of this webpage: [chcclynden.org/](https://chcclynden.org/).

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### **Quiet hours.**

To provide an atmosphere that is respectful to others and conducive to rest, all individuals – those receiving care here, personnel, volunteers, and visitors – are to observe “quiet hours” between 8 p.m. and 8 a.m. If you watch television, listen to music, or engage in activities on a computer that may disturb others or prevent them from sleeping, please use a headset.

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### **Television.**

Each room is equipped with a television set and cable television outlets. A list of available channels is provided in each room.

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### **Internet access.**

Wi-Fi is available at no additional charge; the password is: chccwireless. You can bring your own device or use the computer in the sunroom.

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### **Mail and parcel delivery.**

Mail and parcels arrive at CHCC every day except Sundays and holidays. Therapeutic recreation staff will deliver any items that are sent to you. Outgoing mail may be left with the receptionist at the Aaron Drive entrance.

Address: Christian Health Care Center, 855 Aaron Drive, Lynden, WA 98264

Envelopes, paper, and stamps may be purchased from the receptionist. If assistance is needed with letter writing or mailing, contact therapeutic recreation staff.

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### **Pets.**

Domesticated animals can visit CHCC if a current vaccination record is submitted to the reception desk prior to the first visit. For the safety of all, animals must be in good health and free from fleas. They must not run, jump or create excessive noise.

Dogs should be on a leash of six feet or less in length, and a crate or harness can be used for cats or other small animals. Pets cannot enter any dining or laundry areas. Pet owners are responsible for cleaning up any pet accidents inside of the building and for bagging and disposing of waste outside.

CHCC reserves the right to restrict animal visits if the pet creates an unsafe or uncomfortable environment for those who live and work here. Having a pet that lives in your room is not allowed at CHCC.

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### **Bird feeders and cut flowers.**

Seed and nut-type of bird feeders attract vermin, so they are not allowed at CHCC. A hummingbird feeder hung on a freestanding shepherd's hook is an alternative that may be placed and maintained outside of your window.

Highly fragrant flowers, such as Oriental lilies, hyacinths and lilac stems, can cause people who live and work here to have allergic reactions. Highly scented flowers cannot enter the building, so they should be excluded from any bouquets that are delivered.

Recommended flowers: tulips, chrysanthemums, sunflowers, dahlias, hydrangeas, calla lilies, daffodils, ranunculus, snapdragons and poppies.

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### **Clothing.**

To respect the rights of others – roommates, visitors, volunteers, etc. – please make sure the privacy drape is fully closed when you are getting dressed or during times when you may be unclothed.

You are encouraged to wear clothing that is comfortable and per your preference. Clothing is washed at high temperatures, so all items must be washable and non-shrinkable. Please avoid wool, rayon, or items that must be dry-cleaned; dry cleaning services are not provided by CHCC. We also suggest avoiding 100% cotton items.

All clothing should be marked with your name on your first day here. A member of the care team can help label and record your clothing in the personal inventory list. Clothing items that are brought in after admission should be presented at the nurses' station for labeling. If garments are removed from CHCC, please ask a staff member to remove the item from your clothing list.

We recommend that you or your designated representative look through clothing periodically to remove unneeded pieces and replace worn items. If you need to order clothing for special needs, catalogs are available from the laundry department or social services. When clothing requires mending, CHCC will notify you or your representative, or the item will be discarded.

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### **Food from outside sources.**

You may choose to accept food from family members, visitors, or friends. Foods that do not require refrigeration may be stored in your room in a closed container. Food items requiring refrigeration must be stored in a disposable, sealed container provided by the visitor. Those items must be labeled with your name and the date it was brought to CHCC. They will be stored in the refrigerator on the nursing unit for up to three days before being disposed of. Condiments may be kept until the manufacturer's expiration date.

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### **Catering.**

Food and beverage items can be ordered and served at CHCC for regular visits and special events, including everything from coffee, tea and cookies to top sirloin, wine-poached salmon and oven-roasted turkey. View the menu online – [chcclynden.org/visitation](http://chcclynden.org/visitation) – or ask to see a copy at the main reception desk.

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### **Newspaper.**

The Lynden Tribune provides newspapers for residents each Wednesday. Therapeutic recreation staff also reviews the paper each Wednesday afternoon for those who may want to discuss the articles or who may find it difficult to read.

Other newspapers may be ordered at your own expense. CHCC's reception staff can help you start or stop a newspaper subscription; the recreation department will deliver the paper to your room.

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### **Absence from CHCC.**

Physician authorization is required prior to an absence. To ensure that authorization may be obtained, please notify the nursing staff 24 hours in advance of the planned absence and sign out at the nurses' station when leaving. This is for your safety as well as staff information in the event of emergency. Please check with nursing staff regarding medication you may need while away. Also, notify CHCC staff if you will be away during mealtime, so your meal may be cancelled.

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### **Business office.**

The business office is located behind the Aaron Drive reception desk. It is open from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, or by appointment. Notary public services, as well as consultation regarding financial matters, are available in the business office.

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### **Tobacco, vaping and cannabis.**

CHCC is a smoke-free and vape-free care center. Vaping, smoking tobacco or using marijuana/cannabis is not allowed on the premises, inside or outside of the building, or while attending any care center-coordinated outings. This includes all smoking options including cigarettes, cigars, pipes, e-cigarettes, etc.

In addition, using the following cannabis/CBD products is not allowed at CHCC: Any species of the genus cannabis plant or any mixture or preparation of them, including whole plant extracts and resins delivered in the form of an edible, lotion, salve, liquid, oil, pill or smoke/vapor.

Efforts are made to educate each person who seeks placement to ensure they have been alerted to our policy and that they commit to refrain from smoking, vaping and using cannabis/CBD products while residing here. Should you change your mind after admission, the social service staff will assist you in finding an alternate placement.

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### **Wall of Honor.**

CHCC has a Veterans' Wall that features a framed photo of veterans who choose to participate. For placement on the wall, everyone currently living or working at CHCC who

has served in the U.S. Armed Forces may submit a photo – digital or print – of themselves in uniform during their service time. Residents can talk with a member of the t-rec team for help. Friends and family members can send digital images to Emily Mooney at [emooney@chcclynden.org](mailto:emooney@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.

## RESIDENT CARE

### Resident care plan conferences.

Care planning conferences are held within 30 days of admission, annually, and at the request of you or your representative. Departments represented at care planning meetings include nursing, restorative/rehabilitative therapies, therapeutic recreation, dietary and social services.

Written care plans are developed utilizing input from all members of your care plan team. You will be asked by CHCC personnel if you would like to attend, and if you would like family or another representative invited. If a family/representative is unable to attend the care plan meeting, staff is available to review the care plan with them later.

### Nursing.

Registered nurses, licensed practical nurses, and certified nursing assistants provide resident care services. The department includes staff at a level required to promote optimal care. Registered nurses are here on all shifts to direct and provide patient care. Quality assurance audits by the state of Washington, the federal government, and staff at CHCC help evaluate the quality of services and to determine where improvement may need to be made. If you or your representative have questions regarding care, you should first discuss these concerns with the licensed nurse on your unit. If the care issues continue, the director of nursing can be contacted for additional discussion and clarification.

### Pharmaceutical.

Hoagland Pharmacy is our contracted pharmaceutical provider. In addition to providing and delivering medications, a pharmacist from Hoagland's does on-site reviews of medication

regimes to guide best outcomes.

### **Restorative therapies.**

Therapies are provided when assessment indicates a need for restorative services such as range of motion, muscle strengthening, ambulation, transfer skills, self-feeding skills, and other self-care skills. This department also works closely with the registered dietician who visits weekly. The rehabilitation team includes physical therapists, physical therapy assistants, occupational therapists, speech therapists, and respiratory therapists as well as a restorative staff of LPN coordinators and aides.

### **Social services.**

Our social services team monitors the emotional health and behavior of residents and provides support as needed. This may include counseling, behavioral work, referrals to mental health services, goal setting, validation therapy, or other support. Social services can also refer significant others to community groups or services to meet their needs.

Community information, assistance and referrals for a wide range of services are available to residents. Transfers within CHCC and discharge planning are coordinated through social services. They can also assist with financial information regarding Medicaid and Medicare. Coordination among other disciplines and departments within CHCC and social services is important to assist staff in understanding psycho-social needs and the behaviors you may have. Social services also advocate for your rights and assists with the resolution of grievances.

### **Dietary.**

CHCC's dietary department provides a well-balanced diet that is based on physician's orders and planned by a registered dietitian. Dietary personnel will visit with you regularly to discuss meals and preferences.

Menus are written to provide seasonal changes and are posted daily by the dining room. Alternate choices are posted for breakfast, lunch, and dinner, and you are encouraged to notify staff of your desire for the alternate prior to the meal. In addition to regularly scheduled meals, an "also available" menu is available during the day and early evening, and supplementary nourishments and snacks are provided as indicated by your needs and physician orders.

You are encouraged to eat in the dining rooms, unless ill or otherwise directed. Staff will help with self-feeding as needed. You may request guest trays for visitors provided a minimum of a two-hour notice is given to nursing and dietary staff. Payment for meals will be sent with your monthly bills or can be paid during regular office hours. Please notify a nurse when you will be absent from CHCC during mealtimes.

### **Therapeutic recreation.**

Therapeutic recreation programs are geared to incorporate the social, emotional, spiritual, physical, and intellectual needs and interests of each person. A therapeutic recreation staff member will inform you of the many programs offered, which may include singing, live music, holiday celebrations, gardening and small group discussions.

Activity calendars are posted in your room, in the activity room and near each nurses' station. Programming is announced prior to starting. Friends and family members are always welcome and encouraged to participate with you in these programs.

A bookmobile from the Whatcom County Library System visits CHCC once a month. They loan books for at least a one-month period. Special services such as large-print material, talking books and bookstands are available if you have difficulty reading.

### **Pastoral care.**

CHCC recognizes the importance of spirituality in daily life and in the overall well-being of many of our residents. To provide a comprehensive range of spiritual services, we employ a chaplain and work with religious leaders and lay people from various denominations in the community. Long-term care residents at CHCC are blessed to have access to a variety of faith-based services, including counsel with a chaplain, tuning in to virtual services and attending small group Bible studies. In addition, residents who are served by Whatcom Hospice may receive spiritual visits through that program on a weekly basis.

### **Laundry.**

Laundry is done seven days per week with daily deliveries of laundered clothing. Special care items should not be sent to the CHCC laundry, as we launder all clothing in high temperatures that can be harsh on delicate fabrics. If you wish to have laundry done by a friend or family, a clothes hamper should be provided by the person doing the laundry. CHCC can provide a sign for your closet that alerts staff you have chosen to have a family member launder your clothes.

Please be aware that soiled items needing immediate attention may be laundered by staff for hygiene reasons. It is for this reason that we request you mark all items of clothing with your first initial and last name. New items should be marked and placed on your inventory list.

If an item is missing, please contact a staff member, social services, or laundry supervisor and they will do their best to locate the item.

### **Barber and salon services.**

Appointments for salon services can be made at each nurses' station or directly through the beautician. Charges for salon services are incurred, with the exception that Medicaid-eligible residents may receive one haircut per month at no additional charge. A rate sheet is available in the business office.

### **Sexual consent.**

Based on the plan of care, intimacy and sexual expression shall be permitted if both parties consent and the risks do not exceed the benefits.

If you decide to have a consensual relationship with another resident, your social worker or unit coordinator will share CHCC's sexual consent policy with you and/or your resident representative. They will also discuss risks, privacy and how to report unwanted sexual activity.

### **Resident council.**

CHCC's resident council is an organized group of individuals living in the care center who meet on a regular basis to discuss concerns, develop suggestions and plan activities. Our resident council is composed of a resident-elected president and vice president and a few board members. The council will invite department leaders to attend the meeting to address any questions or concerns, or to receive positive feedback. You are welcome to attend council meetings, which are held in the activity room on the first Thursday of each month.

### **Medical records.**

Your medical records are maintained in compliance with HIPAA, state, and federal regulations. Please refer to Notice of Privacy Practices section in this handbook for detailed information.



## LEGAL MATTERS

### **Power of attorney.**

A power of attorney (POA) is a person or organization designated by you to make decisions on your behalf in case you become unable to do so.

- **Financial power of attorney:** has legal permission to make decisions about your finances if you are unable to do so.
- **Healthcare power of attorney:** has legal permission to make medical decisions for you if you are unconscious, not mentally capable of making decisions, or otherwise unable to make decisions on your own.
- **Durable power of attorney or advance directive:** makes decisions for you if you are still conscious but not mentally capable of making decisions. These legal documents become effective if you become incapable of making your own decisions due to unconsciousness, illness or injury. If you are conscious and capable of making your own decisions, the document(s) remain on file and inactive. CHCC recommends that you provide us with power of attorney documents upon admission so we can act on your wishes if the need arises.

### **Resident representative.**

A resident representative is an individual who agrees to act on your behalf if you do not have power of attorney documents mentioned above.

Resident representatives are typically family members who you have asked to help with decisions if you become incapable of doing so. Once again, if you can make your own decisions, we will ask you first about care and medical information.

### **Advance directives.**

Advance directives are legal documents with instructions that apply if an adult is not able to make decisions about their own healthcare. They are meant to ensure that a person's values related to quality of life, dying and other relevant considerations are honored. You

have the right to formulate advance directives that guide your health care decisions in advance.

Upon admission, we will ask for any advance directives you may have, such as a durable power of attorney, living will or guardianship documents. Please be aware that we cannot act on your advance directives if we do not have a copy of these documents on file for reference. You are not required to have advance directives in place; CHCC will not discriminate against anyone based on whether they have prepared advance directives. We are, however, required to alert you of your right to formulate advance directives and to provide you with written information on these rights when requested. Our social services staff can offer resources, coordinate a notary at your request (in-house and at no cost to you) or refer you to a lawyer, if warranted; CHCC staff are not able to give legal advice.

If you are incapacitated at the time of admission and unable to receive information or articulate whether you have executed an advance directive, we may give that information to your representative in accordance with state law. Our social services staff is available to provide you with information on advance directives should you regain capacity. In the absence of advance directives, CHCC will follow the state hierarchy of determination (decision-making tree, included in this document) to identify a decision maker, in order of priority, when a resident is not able to make their own decisions:

- Court-appointed guardian
- Health care durable power of attorney
- Spouse
- Adult children (consensus)
- Parents
- Adult siblings (consensus)
- Adult grandchildren
- Adult nieces and nephews
- Adult aunts and uncles
- A close friend who meets certain criteria

### Advance directive definitions:

- Advance care planning: a process used to identify and update the resident's preferences regarding care and treatment at a future time, including a situation in which the resident subsequently lacks capacity to do so.
- Advance directive: a written instruction, such as a living will or durable power of attorney for health care, recognized under state law, relating to the provision of health care when the individual is incapacitated.
- Cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR): medical intervention used to attempt to restore circulatory and/or respiratory function that has ceased.
- Durable power of attorney for health care: a document delegating authority to an agent to make health care decisions in case the individual delegating that authority subsequently becomes incapacitated.
- Health care decision-making: consent, refusal to consent, or withdrawal of consent to health care, treatment, services, or a procedure to maintain, diagnose, or treat an individual's physical or mental condition.
- Health care decision-making capacity: possessing the ability (as defined by state law) to make decisions regarding health care and related treatment choices.
- Life-sustaining treatment: treatment that, based on reasonable medical judgment, sustains an individual's life and without which the individual would die. The term includes both life-sustaining medications and interventions (e.g., mechanical ventilation, kidney dialysis, and artificial hydration and nutrition). The term does not include the administration of pain medication or other pain management interventions, the performance of a medical procedure related to enhancing comfort, or any other medical care provided to alleviate a resident's pain.
- Legal representative: a person designated and authorized by an advance directive or state law to make a treatment decision for another person in the event the other person becomes unable to make necessary health care decisions.
- Treatment: interventions provided to maintain or restore health and well-being, improve functional level, or relieve symptoms.

# GENERAL INFORMATION

## Emergency preparedness.

CHCC staff spends a great deal of time on emergency planning. We identify and evaluate likely emergency situations and ensure plans are in place to address any that may arise. There are several things you should know:

- We provide staff training and performance drills for a variety of situations, including fire, severe weather, armed intruder, missing resident, earthquake and communications/power failure. We are doing all we can to be prepared for a wide array of potential events, which we hope will never happen.
- If an unforeseen event does happen, CHCC will contact you to let you know our status and how your loved one is doing. If the phones are operational, we will call the primary contact for each resident. If phones are not operational, but email is, we'll email you.
- We will also post details on our website ([chcclynden.org](http://chcclynden.org)) and on Facebook ([facebook.com/christianhealthcare/](https://facebook.com/christianhealthcare/)).
- Recommended: You can receive important alerts and other communications from CHCC via email by subscribing to CHCC's eNews. An opt-in form can be found on the bottom of this webpage: [chcclynden.org/](http://chcclynden.org/).
- CHCC has a robust communication plan and staff will do all we can to provide the information you need as soon as possible. Please be sure we always have your correct contact information.

## Funeral home.

At your first care conference, you may be asked about funeral home preferences. If no preference is specified, the responsible party will be notified for funeral home preference in case of death. If no preference has been specified and the responsible party is unavailable at the time of death, CHCC will notify a funeral home in Lynden.

## Code of Conduct.

Christian Health Care Center is committed to compliant, ethical behavior and the provision of quality care. Employees and all others directly or indirectly serving CHCC residents, including contracted employees and vendors, must always abide by our Code of Conduct.

Information about our compliance program, Code of Conduct and the reporting process can be found on the compliance bulletin board, which is in the hall just north of the activity room. A copy of the Code of Conduct is available on that board. You may also download CHCC's Code of Conduct from our website at [chcclynden.org/compliance](http://chcclynden.org/compliance).

If you have any concerns about something that is taking place at CHCC, please immediately report the matter by speaking with a staff member, calling our compliance hotline at 360-306-3217 or emailing [compliance@chcclynden.org](mailto:compliance@chcclynden.org).

### **Grievance procedure.**

You, your family, advocate or legal representative are encouraged to share feedback with a member of our Quality Assurance and Performance Improvement committee, referenced in the Resident Rights, Responsibilities and Self-Determination section below. Feedback may also be shared with any care team member verbally or in writing, signed or unsigned.

Any unresolved matters will be promptly and thoroughly investigated and reviewed with the person submitting the grievance. Grievances are submitted to and reviewed by CHCC's grievance officer, who is responsible for overseeing the grievance process. As necessary, CHCC will also take immediate action to prevent further potential violations of any resident right during the grievance investigation process.

Grievance forms are kept at each nursing station, in the front lobby, and in the social services offices. Social service workers will act as patient advocate designees for the care center in event of grievances.

Comments or suggestions also may be written and dropped into the locked box just inside the lobby by the public telephone, and in the rehab lobby near the door. The locked box will be opened regularly, and your comments will be reviewed.

The grievance officer for CHCC is:

Jenaye Phillips

855 Aaron Drive, Lynden, WA 98264

360-354-4434

jphillips@chcclynden.org

If a concern remains unresolved, an ombudsman may be contacted by calling 1-800-562-6028. For help with this procedure, you may request assistance from the social services staff.

Residents have the right to file a complaint with the state survey agency concerning any suspected violation of state or federal regulations, including but not limited to resident abuse, neglect, exploitation, misappropriation of resident property in the care center, non-compliance with the advance directives requirements, and requests for information regarding returning to the community. Agencies that offer resource support and with which you may additionally file grievances are located in the 'Advocacy Resources' section of the resident handbook.

### **Survey.**

A Washington State Survey of CHCC is performed annually by the Department of Social and Health Services. In addition, complaint surveys are completed by the state on an as-needed basis. Results from these surveys are located at the Aaron Drive entrance by the reception desk and at the rehab entrance. CHCC encourages you and your family members to review the survey documentation; you have the right to examine the most recent survey and any plan of correction in effect. See administration for any questions regarding the survey process.

### **Drug-free workplace.**

CHCC is a drug-free workplace.

## **TRANSPORTATION**

Your friends or family are strongly encouraged to provide transportation to and from medical and social appointments.

Whatcom Transportation Authority (WTA) also is available to provide transportation services to you within Whatcom County's boundaries. CHCC staff will apply for WTA services on your behalf and coordinate access to WTA rides if friends or family are unavailable to provide private transport.

In addition, the Washington State Health Care Authority (HCA) contracts with Northwest Regional Council (NWRC) as a broker to provide Medicaid transportation. It is non-ambulance transportation to all people eligible for Medicaid who have no other means of transportation to covered medical services. NWRC serves as the broker for these services by authorizing and arranging transportation for people eligible for Medicaid in Island, San Juan, Skagit, and Whatcom Counties. As the broker, NWRC assures that the transportation authorized is the "most appropriate, least costly" method for providing the service. To assure a cost-effective program, transportation is only arranged for the "nearest provider of type." In other words, if an appropriate doctor is available near CHCC, NWRC cannot authorize transportation to a doctor out of the area, even if you might prefer it.

If friends, family, WTA, and/or other Medicaid transportation are not available for transport to your medical or social appointment, CHCC's van may be utilized if the transportation schedule allows; 48-hour notification of a desire for CHCC-provided transportation is advised. Such service will only be available for a fee. Please ask to see a copy of our rate sheet for current pricing.

## BED HOLD & RETURN

### BED HOLD AND RETURN TO CHCC

#### Policy statement.

CHCC shall inform residents of our bed hold policy upon admission and prior to a transfer for hospitalization or therapeutic leave. Policy interpretation and implementation.

1. Upon admission and when a resident is transferred for hospitalization or for therapeutic leave, a care center representative will provide written information concerning our bed hold policy.
2. When emergency transfers are necessary, CHCC will provide the resident or representative with information concerning our bed hold policy within two business days or

as soon as possible following such transfer.

3. The bed hold information will include the daily rate to hold the bed as well as the time limit for which CHCC will reserve the resident's bed space.

4. The maximum number of days that our State Medicaid Plan will pay for holding a Medicaid resident's bed is 18 days per year; this does not include hospital stays. The State Medicaid Plan will only pay to hold a bed for planned social/therapeutic leaves of absence that are approved in advance. Bed hold days in excess of our State Medicaid Plan are considered non-covered services. A resident will be required to pay for any additional days on which he/she wishes the care center to hold the bed.

5. CHCC's social worker will contact the resident and/or their responsible party the next business day following the transfer to verify bed hold status. If a resident is holding a bed while on hospital or social leave, the social worker will contact the resident and/or responsible party at the end of the designated bed hold days (five for hospital stays; 18 for Medicaid social leaves) to verify the resident's intent regarding return to CHCC and whether or not they want to pay for an extended bed hold.

6. A copy of the resident's bed hold or release record will be filed in the resident's medical record.

7. A resident electing not to pay for a bed hold and whose hospitalization or therapeutic leave exceeds the bed hold period (five days for hospital leave, 18 days for Medicaid social/therapeutic leave), and who is eligible for services provided at this care center, will be readmitted when an appropriate bed becomes available. If it is determined that the resident's needs cannot be met at CHCC, we will follow the discharge notice policy and procedure.

8. CHCC will not charge a bed hold fee for the right to return to a previous room if it's available, or the first available bed in a semi-private room. The bed hold fee is to be used by those residents who wish to hold a specific bed beyond the complimentary five-day hospital stay or the 18-day Medicaid therapeutic/social leave.

9. CHCC will not charge, solicit, accept, or receive payments as a precondition of admission or expedited admission for holding a bed space during a Medicaid resident's hospitalization or therapeutic leave.

10. Inquiries concerning bed hold policies should be referred to a CHCC social worker.



**Bed hold notification**

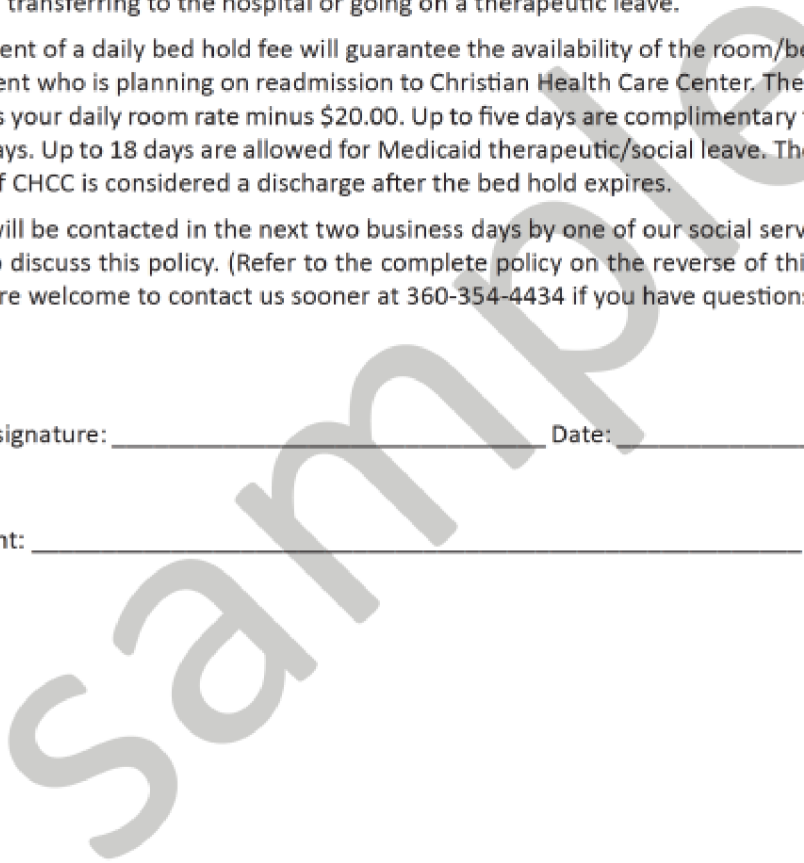
It is the policy of Christian Health Care Center, in compliance with state and federal regulations, to inform you of our bed hold policy. Written notification will be given when transferring to the hospital or going on a therapeutic leave.

Payment of a daily bed hold fee will guarantee the availability of the room/bed for the resident who is planning on readmission to Christian Health Care Center. The bed hold rate is your daily room rate minus \$20.00. Up to five days are complimentary for hospital stays. Up to 18 days are allowed for Medicaid therapeutic/social leave. The transfer out of CHCC is considered a discharge after the bed hold expires.

You will be contacted in the next two business days by one of our social service workers to discuss this policy. (Refer to the complete policy on the reverse of this notice.) You are welcome to contact us sooner at 360-354-4434 if you have questions.

Staff signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Patient: \_\_\_\_\_



# VISITATION POLICY

**Policy statement.**

CHCC permits residents to receive visitors subject to their wishes and the protection of the rights of other residents in the care center.

**Policy interpretation and implementation.**

1. We recognize your need to maintain contact with the community in which you have lived or are familiar with. Therefore, you are permitted to have visitors as you choose.

2. Upon admission, CHCC will inform you, or your representative where appropriate, of the care center's visitation rights and related visitation policies and procedures. This will include:

- a. Your right, subject to consent, to receive visitors designated by the resident;
- b. Your right to withdraw or deny consent for visitation at any time;
- c. When you will be informed of your rights relating to visitation;
- d. Any clinical or safety restriction or limitation of the rights;
- e. Reason for the restriction or limitation; and
- f. To whom the restrictions apply.

3. Your family and friends may visit you at any time, subject to the protection of the rights and safety of other residents and any restrictions imposed by you.

4. CHCC reserves the right to limit the number of visitors in the room at one time to ensure that the rights of other residents are protected.

5. You may have visitors of your choice at any time, as long as visitation is not medically contraindicated. (Note: The resident's care plan identifies visitor restriction information.)

6. CHCC will promote that all visitors have full and equal visitation privileges consistent with resident preferences. Additionally, you have the right to participate in resident groups in the care center.

7. CHCC reserves the right to change the location of a visit if such visit infringes upon the rights of the resident's roommate or other residents in the care center.

8. Space is available in the lobby, library, sunroom and conference room for you to receive guests in reasonable comfort and privacy.

9. Visiting hours (front door access) are generally from 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. daily or as designated by the administrator. CHCC also reserves the right to impose restrictions on such visits to protect the health and safety of residents in the care center.

10. CHCC recognizes the need for “quiet hours” to minimize opportunity for sleep disturbance for residents. Guests who are visiting during quiet hours, 8 p.m. to 8 a.m., may be asked to keep their voices and activities quiet.

11. Unless otherwise permitted by you, visitors will be required to wait outside the room or in the lobby while you are receiving treatment, undergoing examinations, and/or receiving personal care.

12. CHCC reserves the right to require supervised visitation and/or to restrict visitation to a particular time and area of the building when:

- a. A visitor’s behavior requires intervention by security or law enforcement personnel;
- b. The care center has obtained a judicial restraining order against a visitor;
- c. Your family member or visitor has been accused of abuse. (Note: such restriction will apply until the accused individual has been cleared of such charges.);
- d. CHCC is receiving casualties or residents during emergency situations; or e. It may become necessary during terrorist attacks or other local emergencies.

13. Incidents of a visitor’s disruptive behavior must be documented in your medical record or other care center approved form.

14. Residents may visit with members of the clergy at any time, subject to the protection of the rights of other residents or during communicable disease outbreaks. (Note: Policies governing clergy visits during isolation are located in separate chapters, titled “Infection Control” and “Pastoral Services.”)

15. CHCC will provide reasonable access to you by any agency that supplies or provides health, legal, social, or other services to you, subject to your right to deny or withdraw consent at any time, but the care center will establish guidelines regarding circumstances of the visit, such as location.

16. You are permitted to visit with representatives from federal and state survey agencies, resident advocates, and/or your personal physicians at any time. Specifically, CHCC will provide immediate access to you by any of the following:

- a. Any representative of the Secretary;

- b. Any representative of the State of Washington;
  - c. Any representative of the office of the state long-term care ombudsman;
  - d. Your individual physician;
  - e. Any representative of the protection and advocacy systems;
  - f. Any representative of the agency responsible for the protection and advocacy system for individuals with a mental disorder; and g. Your representative.
17. Former employees (as approved by the administrator) may visit you during visiting hours.
18. You have the right to withdraw an individual's visiting privileges at any time. Such documentation must be recorded in the medical record to ensure that all staff members are aware of such restrictions.
19. Inquiries concerning visitation and access to the care center should be referred to CHCC's social worker or the administrator or his/her designee. In the event that you or your representative have concerns regarding your rights related to visitation, you or your representative are encouraged to contact CHCC's grievance official.

## ADMISSION

### Admission Requirements

Admissions can be performed 24 hours per day, seven days per week with prior physician, financial, and care center approval. Persons needing care may be admitted regardless of race, national origin, payer source, or handicap. CHCC accepts residents age 18 and older.

#### Physician approval.

A physician must provide the following medical information before your admission is approved:

- A summary of your current health status, including history and physical findings reflecting a review of systems;

- Orders, as necessary for medications, treatments, diagnostic studies, specialized rehabilitative services, diet, and any restrictions related to physical mobility;
- Plans of continuing care and/or discharge.

### **Financial approval.**

You and your representative must provide assurance to CHCC as to the payment source to be utilized for the care services. We do not request or require a third-party guarantee of payment as a condition of admission, expedited admission, or continued stay in the care center.

However, CHCC may request and require a representative who has legal access to your income or resources to pay for care without that third party incurring personal financial liability. CHCC reserves the right to present you or your representative with a 30-day move out notice if the financial obligation is not met. CHCC approval. Ultimately, all admission decisions will be made by an admission approval team at CHCC. In approving an admission, CHCC must assume the ability to provide the proper care, maintain a safe environment, and ensure proper staffing levels and training.

The ability of CHCC to provide these things, along with the physician and financial approval, will be considered prior to admission for all residents.

## **FINANCE & BILLING**

### **FINANCE AND BILLING**

#### **Methods of payment.**

Costs are incurred daily. CHCC accepts Medicare, Medicaid, private pay, and long-term care insurance reimbursement. For short-term stays, CHCC can also bill certain contracted commercial and managed care insurance companies with prior authorization.

Medicare coverage. To be eligible for Medicare coverage, the following must be met:

- At least three-nights inpatient stay in the hospital

- Admission to CHCC within 30 days of discharge from the hospital or a qualifying stay at a skilled nursing care center
- Physician certification of need for skilled nursing care related to the medical condition that required hospitalization
- Daily skilled nursing or rehabilitation services required
- Available days in a benefit period

Medicare can cover up to 20 days in full, with co-insurance, or co-payment beginning at day 21. The 2024 co-payment rate at day 21 is \$204.00/day. Most Medicare supplement plans will cover this cost. Please check with the billing office for verification on your plan. Medicare can be stopped any time between day one and day 100 when Medicare skilled nursing home criteria is no longer being met; 48-hour notification will be provided. Please call 1-800-MEDICARE for more information.

### **Medicaid coverage.**

The Medicaid program is run by the state of Washington and is paid for by federal, state and local taxes. Medicaid coverage requires DSHS to give approval for nursing home care based on the level of care and financial eligibility as determined by both income and resources. The DSHS Home and Community Services office (phone: 800-239-8292), located at 2219 Rimland Drive, Suite 419, Bellingham, coordinates the Medicaid application process. CHCC social services, or the business office, will assist you with the application and provide written information on eligibility criteria. Applications can also be submitted online here: [washingtonconnection.org/home/](https://www.washingtonconnection.org/home/).

You have the right to request an assessment of resources under section 1924(c) of the Social Security Act.

Services included in the daily basic rate:

- Room and room maintenance
- 24-hour nursing care and food services
- Certain periodic professional health services provided through consultants
- Use of standard equipment, i.e. wheelchair, walker, commode, etc.

- In-house restorative services provided by care center staff
- Recreation programs, social services, and religious programs
- Laundry and linen services
- Incontinence care and supplies
- Miscellaneous administrative and support services
- In-room phone and cable television

Services not included in the daily basic rate:

- Physician visits and services
- Prescribed medications
- Intravenous feeding and oxygen treatment/therapy
- Specialized diagnostic and testing services
- Rehabilitative screening and treatment
- Personal-use equipment; personal phone service and connection
- Individual transportation service
- Catering for family gatherings and special events held at CHCC
- Special recreation outings
- Barber and salon services
- Medical supplies
- Private room

\*Note that some of the above listed services may be covered by Medicaid or private insurance. Please contact social services for specific coverage. A current rate sheet can be obtained from the business office.

**Social leave.**

You are encouraged to spend time away from CHCC when possible. If you are a private pay resident, you must pay for your bed while absent. A \$20-per-day charge will be deducted for meal costs.

For those with public assistance payment, prior notification must be given to DSHS. Please let CHCC know when planning time away to provide a smooth departure. DSHS currently allows for 18 nights out of the care center per year, but exceptions to policy can be applied for through Home and Community Services.

**Billing.**

You or your representative will be billed monthly in advance; payment is due within 10 days of billing. Private pay residents are required to pay for the first month's rent on the day of admission. Miscellaneous charges, such as beauty shop services or van rides, are billed the month following.

CHCC bills DSHS for its portion of your charges. You would pay CHCC your "participation fee," which varies according to income and resources. It is your responsibility to pay this monthly charge by the 10th of each month.

Medicaid residents are provided a designated personal allowance each month for purchasing personal incidental necessities – \$103.20 per month in 2024.

Medicaid residents who have incurred medical or dental expenses that were not covered by insurance may be eligible for payment through a reduction of the participation fee paid to CHCC.

Please check with our business office for assistance before paying outstanding medical bills. Refunds are issued within 10 working days.

CHCC's social services and the resident accounts staff are available to answer billing questions.

**Notice of Medicare consolidated billing rule.**

Medicare rule 42 CFR 483.75 states that certain services and procedures may be the responsibility of the care center if a resident is in a skilled nursing care center in an inpatient Medicare Part A-covered stay. Therefore, please notify your nurse or resident



accounts if you have a professional appointment outside of the care center during your stay at CHCC to ensure that the services and procedures are appropriately billed.

### **Resident trust accounts.**

You have the right to manage your financial affairs. This includes the right to know, in advance, what charges CHCC may impose against your personal funds. If you wish, with written authorization, you may require the care center to hold, safeguard, manage, and account for your funds. CHCC must keep those funds in an account separate from any care center accounts. Any amount must be maintained in an interest-bearing account, except when the account does not exceed certain minimum amounts. Your financial record must be available through quarterly statements and upon request to you or your legal representative. Resident trust account activity is protected by the principle of confidentiality of records.

You may open a trust account by contacting the business office. A Resident Trust Fund Deposit Authorization must be signed and is then filed in your Resident Trust Fund file maintained in the business office. You can go to the receptionist, any day from 8 a.m. to 9 p.m., to withdraw money from your account. All deposits can be made with the receptionist on duty.

You or your representative may authorize ongoing expenses to be paid from the trust account (e.g., newspaper subscriptions and insurance premiums).

If you receive Medicaid benefits, you have a right to be notified when the amount in the account reaches \$200 less than the SSI resource limit for one person (\$2,000.00). If the amount in the account, in addition to the value of your other non-exempt resources, reaches the SSI limit for one person, you may lose eligibility for Medicaid or SSI.

Upon discharge, eviction, or death, CHCC must convey within 30 days your trust account funds and a final accounting of those funds to the resident, or in the case of death, the state of Washington (if a Medicaid resident) or to the individual or probate jurisdiction administering your estate.

## **TV Channel Guide**

<b>2</b> NWCN	<b>35</b> FOOD NETWORK	<b>68</b> HGTV
<b>3</b> ION TELEVISION	<b>36</b> TRAVEL CHANNEL	<b>72</b> KVOS
<b>4</b> KOMO (ABC)	<b>37</b> HISTORY CHANNEL	<b>74</b> TV GUIDE NETWORK
<b>5</b> KING (NBC)	<b>38</b> TLC	<b>75</b> KCT PLUS
<b>6</b> KONG	<b>39</b> ABC FAMILY	<b>78</b> THE WEATHER CHANNEL
<b>7</b> KIRO (CBS)	<b>40</b> NICKELODEON	<b>79</b> LEASED ACCESS
<b>8</b> DISCOVERY CHANNEL	<b>41</b> DISNEY CHANNEL	<b>91</b> AZTECA AMERICA
<b>9</b> KCTS (PBS)	<b>42</b> CARTOON NETWORK	<b>92</b> AAT TV
<b>10</b> GOVERNMENT ACCESS	<b>43</b> ANIMAL PLANET	<b>96</b> JEWELRY TV
<b>11</b> KSTW	<b>44</b> CNN	
<b>12</b> KVOS	<b>45</b> HEADLINE NEWS	
<b>13</b> KCPQ (FOX)	<b>46</b> CNBC	
<b>14</b> KBCB	<b>47</b> MSNBC	
<b>15</b> KPST	<b>48</b> FOX NEWS CHANNEL	
<b>16</b> QVC	<b>49</b> TRUTV	
<b>17</b> HSN	<b>50</b> OXYGEN	
<b>18</b> KWDK (DAYSTAR)	<b>51</b> LIFETIME	
<b>19</b> HALLMARK CHANNEL	<b>52</b> A&E	
<b>20</b> KTBW	<b>53</b> FX	
<b>21</b> CTV (CANADA)	<b>54</b> TNT	
<b>22</b> KMYQ (MYNETWORKTV)	<b>55</b> TBS	
<b>23</b> TVW	<b>56</b> BET	
<b>24</b> C-SPAN	<b>57</b> SPIKE TV	
<b>25</b> C-SPAN 2	<b>58</b> USA NETWORK	
<b>26</b> LOCAL ORINATION	<b>59</b> SYFY	
<b>27</b> CBC (CANADA)	<b>60</b> COMEDY CENTRAL	
<b>28</b> UNIVISION	<b>61</b> CMT	
<b>29</b> KUNS (UNIVISION)	<b>62</b> VH1	
<b>30</b> FSN NORTHWEST	<b>63</b> MTV	
<b>31</b> ESPN	<b>64</b> MTV2	
<b>32</b> ESPN 2	<b>65</b> E! ENTERTAINMENT	
<b>33</b> GOLF CHANNEL	<b>66</b> BRAVO	
<b>34</b> VERSUS	<b>67</b> AMC	

## ADVOCACY RESOURCES

### 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline

- People can call or text 988 or chat 988lifeline.org for themselves or if they are worried about a loved one who may need crisis support.

- Phone: 988
- 

### Adult Protective Services

- Investigates allegations of neglect, abuse, and financial exploitation of elderly/disabled persons.
  - Phone: 877-734-6277 2219 Rimland Drive, Suite 419 Bellingham, WA 98226
  - Email: [apscentralintake@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:apscentralintake@dshs.wa.gov)
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### Aging and Disability Resources “No Wrong Door Program”

- Supports the independence, dignity, and health of older adults (60+) and people with disabilities. Services are free to individuals and their representatives.
  - Phone: 360-738-2500 / 800-585-6749 600 Lakeway Drive Bellingham, WA 98225
  - Email: [ADRCwhatcom@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:ADRCwhatcom@dshs.wa.gov) or [nowrongdoor@acl.hhs.gov](mailto:nowrongdoor@acl.hhs.gov)
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### Aging & Long-Term Support Administration (AL TSA) State Survey Office

- Residential Care Services/Nursing Home Quality Assurance
- Phone: 800-422-3263 PO Box 45600 Olympia, WA 98504-5600

### Center for Independence

- Helps people with disabilities access and participate in the community.
  - Phone: 360-393-3890 502 State Avenue Marysville, WA 98270
  - Email: [info@cfi.wa.org](mailto:info@cfi.wa.org) • Info: [centerforindependence.org](http://centerforindependence.org)
- 

### Complaint Resolution Unit

- Report abuse or neglect in a care center: [dshs.wa.gov/altsa/](https://dshs.wa.gov/altsa/) and click the “Report Adult Abuse” link.
  - Phone: 800-562-6078 PO Box 45600 Olympia WA 98504-5600
  - Email: [apscentralintake@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:apscentralintake@dshs.wa.gov)
- 

### Developmental Disabilities Advocacy (DDA) Whatcom County

- Provides policies and support to those with developmental disabilities and to their support system.
  - Phone: 360-714-5000 / 800-239-8285 2219 Rimland Drive, Suite 315 Bellingham, WA 98226
  - Email: [DD3FSO@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:DD3FSO@dshs.wa.gov)
- 

### Home and Community Services - DSHS

- Assists persons with disabilities and the elderly who need state funds to help pay for care. Apply here for Medicaid coverage and services.
  - Phone: 360-812-4940 / 800-239-8292 2219 Rimland Drive, Suite 419 Bellingham, WA 98226
  - Email: [KyleNJ@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:KyleNJ@dshs.wa.gov)
  - Info: [washingtonconnection.org/home/](https://washingtonconnection.org/home/)
- 

### Long-Term Care Ombudsman

- Protects and promotes the rights of residents in nursing homes; helps resolve complaints.
- Phone: 800-562-6028 PO Box 23699 Federal Way, WA 98093-0699
- Email: [ltpop@mschelps.org](mailto:ltpop@mschelps.org)

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## Medicaid Fraud Control Washington State

- Report suspected fraudulent activity involving the Medicaid program.
  - Phone: 800-562-6906 / 360-586-8888 PO Box 40114 Olympia, WA 98504
  - Email: [MFCUreferrals@atg.wa.gov](mailto:MFCUreferrals@atg.wa.gov)
- 

## Medicare Information and Fraud Reporting

- For questions about Medicare eligibility, services, and billing or to report concerns about Medicare fraud.
  - Phone: 800-MEDICARE / 800-447-8477 7500 Security Boulevard Baltimore, MD 21244
  - Info: <https://medicare.gov>
- 

## NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness) Help Line

- Educates, advocates, and provides support to local individuals affected by mental illness.
  - Phone: 800-950-6264 / 360-671-4950 P.O. Box 5571 Bellingham, WA 98227
  - Email: [namiadmin@namiwhatcom.org](mailto:namiadmin@namiwhatcom.org)
  - Mental Health Crisis Line Phone: 800-584-3578
  - Mental Health Treatment Access Line Phone: 888-693-7200
- 

## Northwest Regional Council

- Implements state and federal programs for seniors and those needing long-term care. Programs: Meals on Wheels, Respite Care, Adult Day Services, Family Caregiver Support.
- Phone: 360-676-6749 / 800-585-6749 600 Lakeway Drive Bellingham, WA 98225

- Email: [ADRCwhatcom@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:ADRCwhatcom@dshs.wa.gov)
- 

### Protection and Advocacy Network

- Advocacy and attorney work for the mentally ill and disabled population.
  - Phone: 800-562-2702 315 5th Avenue South Suite 850 Seattle, WA 98104
  - Email: [info@dr-wa.org](mailto:info@dr-wa.org)
- 

### Qualis/Comagine Health Offices

- Generates, applies, and disseminates knowledge to improve the quality of healthcare delivery.
  - Phone: 800-949-7536 10700 Meridian Avenue North, #100 Seattle, WA 98133
  - Email: [info@qualishealth.org](mailto:info@qualishealth.org)
- 

### Quality Improvement Organization, Kepro

- Help to file quality of care complaints, skilled service termination appeals and advocacy.
  - Phone: 888-305-6759
  - Info: [keproqio.com](http://keproqio.com)
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### Social Security Office

- Report a lost social security card or get answers to social security questions. Apply for Medicare coverage.
  - Phone: 800-772-1213 710 Alabama St. Bellingham WA 98225
  - Email: [open.government@ssa.gov](mailto:open.government@ssa.gov)
-

## U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, Office of Civil Rights

- Protecting the health of all Americans and providing essential human services.
  - Phone: 877-696-6775 200 Independence Avenue SW Room 509F, HHH Building Washington, DC 20201
  - Email: [OCRMail@hhs.gov](mailto:OCRMail@hhs.gov)
  - Info: [hhs.gov/](https://hhs.gov/)
- 

## Washington State Department of Health

- Protects the public by licensing healthcare professionals, investigating disease outbreaks and preparing for emergencies.
- Phone: 800-525-0127 111 Israel Road SE Tumwater, WA 98501
- Email: [hsqa.csc@doh.wa.gov](mailto:hsqa.csc@doh.wa.gov)
- Info: [doh.wa.gov](https://doh.wa.gov)

# NON-DISCRIMINATION

Discrimination in any form shall be prohibited by this care center.

- It is the policy of this care center that no person (resident, personnel, and/or visitor), on the grounds of race, color, creed, religion, national origin, age, sex, sexual orientation or disability, or any other legally protected characteristic, be denied benefits or be subjected to discrimination under any admission programs, activities, financial assistance programs, training programs or employment practices.
- This care center is operated in accordance with current federal, state, and local laws governing discrimination. All facilities including but not limited to waiting rooms, public toilets, dining facilities, etc., are available to all without regard to race, color, creed, national

origin, religion, age, sex, sexual orientation or disability, or any other legally protected characteristic.

- Discrimination of any form, including but not limited to ethnic slurs, jokes, etc., must be promptly reported to the administrator.

- Any individual who believes they have not received fair treatment in accordance with our established policies and procedures may submit a written complaint to CHCC's compliance officer by phone (360-306-3217) or email ([compliance@chcclynden.org](mailto:compliance@chcclynden.org)). Or by contacting:

U.S. Department of Health & Human Services

Office for Civil Rights

Phone: 877-696-6775 200 Independence Avenue SW

Room 509F, HHH Building

Washington, DC 20201

Email: [OCRMail@hhs.gov](mailto:OCRMail@hhs.gov)

## STAY IN TOUCH

### **Connect & Communicate - 360.354.4434**

#### **Indoor visits.**

To safeguard the health of all residents, we ask that those with communicable diseases or exposure to communicable diseases not visit.

#### **Scheduling.**

Schedule outings and large group visits 24 hours in advance by calling 360-354-4434 between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. Monday through Friday. Scheduling large group visits will



ensure that adequate space is reserved and that the visit will not interrupt a resident's daily schedule (therapies, personal care, meals, etc.).

### **Phone calls.**

Residents and patients can use personal cellular devices at their own expense. In addition, a landline phone is provided in each room. Call any time and ask to be transferred to your loved one's room. The reception desk is open daily from 8 a.m. to 9 p.m.; please conduct visits and phone calls within those hours to minimize disruptions.

### **Cards and letters.**

Mail arrives every day, with the exception of Sundays and holidays. Include the recipient's first and last name when addressing the envelope. Use this mailing address: C/O Christian Health Care Center, 855 Aaron Drive, Lynden, WA 98264.

### **Video Visits.**

Video visits - using a variety of apps – are arranged by appointment through our recreation department.

### **Outings.**

Schedule outings at least 24 hours in advance by calling 360-354-4434 between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Scheduling in advance is not required but is highly recommended so that staff can have the resident ready for the outing and adjust their daily schedule as needed (therapies, personal care, meals, etc.).

Scheduling outings in advance also helps ensure that residents have the medications they need and that they are signed out at the nurse's station.

### **Sharing food.**

Visitors may bring homemade food or purchased food items for residents. Catering through CHCC is also available; for a menu, visit [chcclynden.org/catering](https://chcclynden.org/catering).

### **Flower deliveries.**

Highly-fragrant flowers can cause people who live and work here to have allergic reactions. Highly scented flowers cannot enter the building, so they should be excluded from any bouquets that are delivered. Recommended flowers: tulips, chrysanthemums, sunflowers, dahlias, hydrangea, calla lilies, daffodils, ranunculus, snapdragon and poppies.

## SAFEGUARDING

Christian Health Care Center strives to safeguard residents' personal items. You can partner with us to provide the best chance of promoting the safekeeping of resident property.

- The facility keeps an inventory of possessions and clothing for each resident at each nursing station. When a new item is brought in or when an item is taken home or discarded, we ask that families let us know so that we can keep the list current by removing or adding items.
- Clothing and other items brought into the facility should be marked with the resident's name. We can assist with labeling clothing, on request.
- Please give consideration when bringing in items of great value or sentiment.
- While we do our best to safeguard items, we cannot absolutely guarantee that items will not get lost. Often an item of value (a wedding ring, for example) may be kept at home if a substitute will suffice.
- Money may be kept in a trust fund in the business office and accessed through the front desk staff seven days a week. This way, cash can be locked up safely and accessed only when needed.
- When it's noticed that an item is missing, please alert staff and assist them in generating a lost item form that gives us a good description of the missing item.
- The sooner you alert us to a loss, the better chance we have of finding it. The social service staff will follow up with you on missing items. The laundry department maintains an unclaimed clothing bin; clothes not claimed for more than 30 days may be donated.

- When a resident leaves the facility with no plan to return, we request that you pick up possessions as soon as possible. We will store unclaimed items for 30 days but will then donate or dispose of items left unclaimed.
- Thank you for your help with this. It takes a partnership to be successful!

## MEDICAL ASSISTANCE

### APPLYING FOR MEDICAL ASSISTANCE

Enroll in Medicare Part A and/or Medicare B.

- Apply online at [www.SocialSecurity.gov](http://www.SocialSecurity.gov).
- Call Social Security at 800-772-1213, Monday through Friday, from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.
- Apply in person at the Social Security office located at 710 Alabama Street, Bellingham, WA.

### Apply for Medicaid Assistance.

- Inform social services or CHCC's business office of the need to apply for Medicaid. We are here to help!
- Apply in person at the DSHS Home and Community Services office located at 2219 Rimland Drive, Suite 419, Bellingham, WA.
- Call the Home and Community Services office at 360-812-4940, Monday through Friday, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- Apply online: [www.washingtonconnection.org/home/](http://www.washingtonconnection.org/home/)

Our social services team and business office staff are here to answer general questions about eligibility, applying for benefits, and how to use these benefits.

You have the right to request an assessment from Medicaid if you have questions about nonexempt resources. You may be entitled to a refund of payments depending on your

entitlement.

## WHAT IS MEDICARE?

### Medicare is health insurance for:

- People 65 or older
- People under 65 with certain disabilities
- People of any age with End-Stage Renal Disease (ESRD) (permanent kidney failure requiring dialysis or a kidney transplant)

### What are the different parts of Medicare?

Original Medicare is a fee-for-service health plan that has two parts: Part A (Hospital Insurance) and Part B (Medical Insurance).

### Part A (Hospital Insurance) helps cover:

- Inpatient care in a hospital
- Inpatient care in a skilled nursing facility (not custodial or long-term care)
- Hospice care
- Home health care
- Inpatient care in a religious nonmedical health care institution

You usually don't pay a monthly premium for Part A coverage if you or your spouse paid Medicare taxes while working for a certain amount of time. This is sometimes called premium-free Part A. If you aren't eligible for premium-free Part A, you may be able to buy Part A.

### Part B (Medical Insurance) helps cover:

- Services from doctors and other health care providers
- Outpatient care
- Home health care
- Durable medical equipment (DME)
- Many preventive services

Most people pay the standard monthly Part B premium.

Note: You may want to get coverage that fills gaps in Original Medicare (Part A and Part B) coverage. You can choose to buy a Medicare Supplement Insurance (Medigap) policy from a private company.

#### **Part C (Medicare Advantage):**

- Includes all benefits and services covered under Parts A and B
- Usually includes Medicare prescription drug coverage (Part D) as part of the plan
- Run by Medicare-approved private insurance companies that follow rules set by Medicare
- Plans have a yearly limit on your out-of-pocket costs for medical services
- May include extra benefits and services that aren't covered by Original Medicare, sometimes for an extra cost

#### **Part D (Medicare prescription drug coverage):**

- Helps cover the cost of prescription drugs
- Run by Medicare-approved drug plans that follow rules set by Medicare
- May help lower your prescription drug costs and help protect against higher costs in the future

Note: If you have limited income and resources, you may qualify for help paying for your health care and prescription drug costs. For more information, visit [socialsecurity.gov](https://www.socialsecurity.gov), call Social Security at 1-800-772-1213, or contact your local State Medical Assistance (Medicaid) office. TTY users can call 1-800-325-0778.

## WHAT IS MEDICAID?

Medicaid is a joint federal and state program that helps pay medical costs if you have limited income and resources and meet other requirements. Medicaid may also cover services not normally covered by Medicare (like long-term supports and services and personal care services). Each state has different rules about eligibility and applying for Medicaid. If you qualify for Medicaid in your state, you automatically qualify for Extra Help paying your Medicare prescription drug coverage (Part D).

**You may be eligible for Medicaid if you have limited income and are any of these:**

- 65 or older
- A child under 19
- Pregnant
- Living with a disability
- A parent or adult caring for a child
- An adult without dependent children (in certain states)
- An eligible immigrant

In many states, more parents and other adults can get coverage now. If you were turned down in the past, you can try again and may qualify now.

**When you enroll, you can get the health care benefits you need, like:**

- Doctor visits

- Hospital stays
- Long-term services and supports
- Preventive care, including immunizations, mammograms, colonoscopies, and other needed care• Prenatal and maternity care
- Mental health care
- Necessary medications
- Vision and dental care (for children)

You should apply for Medicaid if you or someone in your family needs health care. If you aren't sure whether you qualify, a qualified caseworker in your state can look at your situation. Contact your local or state Medicaid office to see if you qualify and to apply. To get information about your state's Medicaid program, visit [HealthCare.gov/medicaid-chip/getting-medicaid-chip](https://www.healthcare.gov/medicaid-chip/getting-medicaid-chip).

### Dual eligibility

Some people qualify for both Medicare and Medicaid and are called "dual eligibles." If you have Medicare and full Medicaid coverage, most of your health care costs are likely covered.

You can get your Medicare coverage through Original Medicare or a Medicare Advantage Plan (like an HMO or PPO). If you have Medicare and/or full Medicaid, Medicare covers your Part D prescription drugs. Medicaid may still cover some drugs and other care that Medicare doesn't cover.

For more information on Medicaid, visit [HealthCare.gov/medicaid-chip/getting-medicaid-chip](https://www.healthcare.gov/medicaid-chip/getting-medicaid-chip). If you have questions about Medicare, visit [Medicare.gov](https://www.medicare.gov), or call 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227). TTY users can call 1-877-486-2048.

You have the right to get Medicare information in an accessible format. You also have the right to file a complaint if you feel you've been discriminated against. Visit [CMS.gov/about-cms/agency-information/aboutwebsite/cmsnondiscriminationnotice.html](https://www.cms.gov/about-cms/agency-information/aboutwebsite/cmsnondiscriminationnotice.html), or call 1-800-MEDICARE for more information.

# ANTIBIOTICS

Click to read [ANTIBIOTICS: WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW](#)

## ANTIBIOTIC STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM

We are committed to:

- Promoting a culture of optimal antibiotic use by educating staff, physicians, residents and families.
- Ensuring timely and appropriate start of antibiotic treatments.
- Ensuring appropriate administration of antibiotic therapy and narrowing the antibiotics used to specifically target the present pathogen.
- Monitoring for program effectiveness, evaluation and associated resident outcomes.
- Promoting a culture of transparency, reporting and open communication

### Benefits of antibiotic stewardship.

By committing to antibiotic stewardship, our care team aims to decrease the side effects of antibiotic use, such as intestinal infections. We will work to reduce the potential development of resistant infections and help preserve the therapeutic effectiveness of the antibiotic medications that CHCC currently uses. Antibiotic stewardship also can decrease medication cost.

All of this is part of our commitment to stay on the cutting edge of healthcare trends so we can provide the best healthcare possible to every one of the residents and patients at our Lynden healthcare campus. If you have any questions about antibiotic use at CHCC, please contact our director of nursing.

## URINARY TRACT INFECTIONS AND ANTIBIOTICS

Dear Residents, Families and Friends,



Our goal at Christian Health Care Center is to provide the best care possible for residents, working together with residents and their families. In order to maintain the high standard of care, we wanted to share with you some new research and recommendations regarding the diagnosis and treatment of Urinary Tract Infections (UTIs).

UTIs are caused by bacteria in the bladder or urinary tract that result in the specific symptoms listed below; these symptoms may also be accompanied by a fever: *burning during urination; pressure or pain in pelvis; strong urge to urinate (urgency); blood in the urine; needing to urinate more often (frequency); pain along one side of lower back.*

If a resident is experiencing specific urinary tract symptoms, our practitioners may decide to test a resident's urine to look for bacteria and signs of infection. Antibiotics can be a good treatment for residents who are experiencing these specific urinary tract symptoms and have bacteria in their urine.

Sometimes other symptoms that a resident is experiencing can be confused with symptoms of a UTI. For example, confusion, fatigue, foul-smelling or cloudy urine or loss of balance or fall, are often thought to be caused by a UTI.

However, there are many other potential causes of these symptoms. In fact, many older adults have bacteria in their urine even when they don't have a UTI. It is important to avoid the use of antibiotics when they are not needed because they might cause more harm than good. How can antibiotics be harmful? Antibiotics can cause side effects like fever, rash, diarrhea, nausea, vomiting and headache. Antibiotics can also kill the "good" bacteria that we have in our bodies. This can lead to the development of other infections, such as Clostridium difficile infection (also known as C. diff). C. diff is a highly contagious infection that causes severe diarrhea and can even be fatal.

Overusing antibiotics can also cause bacteria to become "drug resistant." Drug resistant bacteria are very hard to kill, may cause more serious infections with fewer treatment choices available. It is important to remember that antibiotics are not always necessary. By understanding the risks of using antibiotics when they are not needed, you can help ensure all of our residents get the best care possible.

Based on current research, the staff at Christian Health Care Center will perform urine testing only when specific urinary tract symptoms are present. Without these symptoms, residents will be observed and monitored for any changes. Antibiotics will be prescribed if the practitioner is sure that there is an infection.

Thank you for your understanding of and attention to this very important matter.

## OMBUDSMAN PROGRAM

Washington state's long-term care ombudsman advocates for residents of nursing homes, adult family homes and assisted living facilities. Their purpose is to protect and promote resident rights, which are guaranteed under federal and state law.

If a concern arises, anyone is welcome to pursue any or all of these options:

- Talk directly to care center staff to share your concerns.
- Submit a written grievance to a member of your care team.
- Voice your concern and get support at a resident council meeting.
- Call your local long-term care ombudsman for advice and/or request their help resolving an issue.
- Call the DSHS complaint hotline (1-800-562-6078) and report your concern. You will be asked to leave a message. Provide specific details about your concern, your name and phone number, and a good time to reach you. DSHS will call you back. You also have the option to remain anonymous to CHCC, DSHS, or to both entities.

Ted Metz, Whatcom County Ombudsman

1-800-562-6028

336 36th St, #813, Bellingham, WA 98225

<https://www.waombudsman.org>

### How to Report Abuse



# NOTICE

Concerned about abuse, neglect or a violation  
of resident rights?

## Report online

[dshs.wa.gov/altsa/reportadultabuse](https://dshs.wa.gov/altsa/reportadultabuse)

## Call

Aging & Long-Term Support  
Administration  
1-800-562-6078

TTY Users  
1-800-737-7931

If you need help resolving any problems or have questions  
about licensed long-term care facilities, contact the State of  
Washington Office of Ombuds at 1-800-562-6028.

## IN CASE OF EMERGENCY

CHCC's staff invests a great deal of time on emergency planning. We proactively and continuously evaluate potential emergency situations and work to ensure that plans are in

place to address any that may arise.

As a team, we are trained to respond to situations that include fire, severe weather, communications/power failure, an armed intruder, a missing resident, and even an earthquake.

You can take comfort knowing that our care team receives continuous training on emergency response. That training includes random and scheduled drills.

CHCC's care team does all we can to be prepared for a wide array of potential events, which we hope will never happen.

In case an emergency does happen, here's what you should know:

- As early in the situation as practicable, a spokesperson from CHCC will communicate information with family and/or designees of residents to apprise them of the situation. It is your responsibility to make sure we have updated contact info.
- If the phones are operational, the primary contact for each resident will be called. If phones are not operational, but email is, the primary contact will receive an email.
- If phone and email are not options, general information such as whether we are evacuating or sheltering in place will be sent to KGMI and KOMO. Info will also be posted on our website -- [chcclynden.org](http://chcclynden.org)-- as soon as possible.
- An update may be shared on Facebook: [facebook.com/christianhealthcare](https://www.facebook.com/christianhealthcare). You can also post general questions via that social media site.
- Note that there may be some information we cannot legally share due to HIPAA guidelines and privacy regulations.

Know that a robust communication plan is in place and that we will do all we can to provide continuous care to our residents and share the information you need as soon as possible.

## DECISION-MAKING TREE

Washington state law lists who may make health care decisions for someone if they cannot. Health care providers will contact people in the following order to identify a decision-maker (RCW 7.70.065):

1. A guardian appointed by Washington state
2. Named health care agent
3. Spouse or registered domestic partner (even if separated)
4. Adult children\*
5. Parents\*
6. Adult siblings\*
7. Adult grandchildren\*
8. Adult nieces and nephews\*
9. Adult aunts and uncles\*
10. A close friend who meets certain criteria and who provides a declaration that they meet these requirements:
  - is an adult who has exhibited special care and concern for the patient;
  - is familiar with the patient's personal values;
  - is reasonably available to make health care decisions; and
  - is not any of the following:
    - » a physician to the patient or an employee of the physician;
    - » the owner, administrator or employee of a health care facility, nursing home or long-term care facility where the patient resides or receives care; or
    - » a person who receives compensation to provide care to the patient.

\*For any group that has more than one person, everyone in the group must agree to the care.

# WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT LOTIONS & POTIONS




For the safety of others who stay here, a physician's order must be on file for many over-the-counter toiletries, such as medicated shampoo and hydrocortisone cream. If you bring personal care items that potentially could be used or ingested by someone else, please first consult with a nurse, who can assist with precautionary measures and help obtain a doctor's order, if necessary.

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Toiletries with a doctor's order and personal items marked as unsafe for children need to be kept secured and out of sight when not in use to prevent accidental usage or ingestion by others. CHCC will provide a container with a lid, if necessary.



As long as you are capable of using the items safely, you have the right to keep personal toiletries (such as toothpaste, lotion, perfume, deodorant, mouthwash and more) in your room for easy access. If you share a room, these items must be placed in covered bins or kept in a closet, drawer, dresser or bathroom.



# HOW COVID-19 MRNA VACCINES WORK

## How mRNA COVID-19 Vaccines Work

### Understanding the virus that causes COVID-19.

Coronaviruses, like the one that causes COVID-19, are named for the crown-like spikes on their surface, called **spike proteins**. These **spike proteins** are ideal targets for vaccines.

### What is mRNA?

Messenger RNA, or mRNA, is genetic material that tells your body how to make proteins.

### What is in the vaccine?

The vaccine is made of mRNA wrapped in a coating that makes delivery easy and keeps the body from damaging it.

### How does the vaccine work?

The mRNA in the vaccine teaches your cells how to make copies of the **spike protein**. If you are exposed to the real virus later, your body will recognize it and know how to fight it off.



### GETTING VACCINATED?

For information about COVID-19 vaccine, visit: [cdc.gov/coronavirus/vaccines](https://cdc.gov/coronavirus/vaccines)





# Vaccination



We encourage everyone who lives, works and visits CHCC to be fully vaccinated against COVID-19.



## CHCC FOUNDATION INFORMATION



## EVERY DONATION HELPS CHCC PROVIDE CARE WITH COMPASSION AND LOVE IN CHRIST'S NAME

CHCC's Foundation — guided by our board of trustees — helps our care team continue to learn and grow. It also provides training for the future workforce and funds supplies and maintenance that are not covered under our standard operating budget.



Snap to donate



**CHCCCLYNDEN.ORG/FOUNDATION**

As a Washington State 501(c)(3) qualified charity, all gifts may qualify for a variety of tax deductions. We encourage you to talk with your financial advisor to learn more. Contact CHCC's executive director with any questions you may have. They can be reached at 360-354-4434.

## LANGUAGE ASSISTANCE

English ATTENTION: If you speak English, language assistance services, free of charge, are available to you. Call 360-354-4434. Español

(Spanish) ATENCIÓN: si habla español, tiene a su disposición servicios gratuitos de asistencia lingüística. Llame al 360-354-4434.

繁體中文 (Chinese) 注意：如果您使用繁體中文，您可以免費獲得語言援助服務。請致電 360-354-4434.

Tiếng Việt (Vietnamese) CHÚ Ý: Nếu bạn nói Tiếng Việt, có các dịch vụ hỗ trợ ngôn ngữ miễn phí dành cho bạn. Gọi số 360-354-4434.

한국어 (Korean) 주의: 한국어를 사용하시는 경우, 언어 지원 서비스를 무료로 이용하실 수 있습니다. 360-354-4434번으로 전화해 주십시오.

Русский (Russian) ВНИМАНИЕ: Если вы говорите на русском языке, то вам доступны бесплатные услуги перевода. Звоните 360-354-4434.

Tagalog (Tagalog – Filipino) PAUNAWA: Kung nagsasalita ka ng Tagalog, maaari kang gumamit ng mga serbisyo ng tulong sa wika nang walang bayad. Tumawag sa 360-354-4434.

Українська (Ukrainian) УВАГА! Якщо ви розмовляєте українською мовою, ви можете звернутися до безкоштовної служби мовної підтримки. Телефонуйте за номером 360-354-4434.

ខ្មែរ (Cambodian) ប្រយ័ត្ន: បើប្រើភាសាខ្មែរ ឬភាសាខ្មែរ ផ្សេងទៀត អ្នកអាចទទួលបានសេវាជំនួយឥតគិតថ្លៃ។ សូមទូរស័ព្ទលេខ 360-354-4434។

日本語 (Japanese) 注意事項：日本語を話される場合、無料の言語支援をご利用いただけます。360-354-4434 まで、お電話にてご連絡ください。

አማርኛ (Amharic) ማሳሰቢያ: የሚናገሩት ቋንቋ አማርኛ ከሆነ የትርጉም እርዳታ ድርጅቶች፣ በነጻ ሊያገዝዎት ተዘጋጅተዋል። ወደ ሚከተለው ቁጥር ይደውሉ 360-354-4434.

ملحوظة: إذا كنت تتحدث اذكر اللغة، فإن خدمات اللغة تتوافر لك بالمجان. اتصل بـ 1 xxx-xxx-xxxx (رقم الع 4434 المساعدة اللغ برقم. 354-360- :هاتف الصم والبكم

ਪੰਜਾਬੀ (Punjabi) ਿਧਆਨ ਿਦਓ: ਜੇ ਤੁਸੀਂ ਪੰਜਾਬੀ ਬੋਲਦੇ ਹੋ, ਤਾਂ ਭਾਸ਼ਾ ਿਵੱਚ ਸਹਾਇਤਾ ਸੇਵਾ ਤੁਹਾਡੇ ਲਈ ਮੁਫਤ ਉਪਲਬਧ ਹੈ। 360-354-4434 'ਤੇ ਕਾਲ ਕਰੋ।

Deutsch (German) ACHTUNG: Wenn Sie Deutsch sprechen, stehen Ihnen kostenlos sprachliche Hilfsdienstleistungen zur Verfügung. Rufnummer: 360-354-4434.

ພາສາລາວ (Lao) ໂບດຊາບ: ຖ້າວ່າ ທ່ານເວົ້າພາສາ ລາວ, ການບໍລິການຊ່ວຍເຫຼືອດ້ານພາສາ, ໂດຍບໍ່ເສັງຄ່າ, ແມ່ນມີພ້ອມໃຫ້ທ່ານ. ໂທ 360-354-4434.

Nederlands (Dutch) AANDACHT: Als u nederlands spreekt, kunt u gratis gebruikmaken van de taalkundige diensten. Bel 360-354-4434.

Deitsch (Pennsylvania Dutch) Wann du [Deitsch (Pennsylvania German / Dutch)] schwetzsch, kansch du mitaus Koschte ebber gricke, ass dihr helft mit die englisch Schprooch. Ruf selli Nummer uff: Call 360-354-4434.

Norsk (Norwegian) MERK: Hvis du snakker norsk, er gratis språkassistansetjenester tilgjengelige for deg. Ring 360-354-4434.