

Village Voice

SPECIAL

May 21, 2021

REVISED Independent Living Reopening Plan: Phase III

By Maria Timberlake, vice president of senior living and Brian Opoka, director of public safety

Late last week, the CDC changed their recommendations for mask-wearing by fully vaccinated people. Then Jackson County announced that their health order requiring people to wear a mask when out in public had expired. Therefore, to remain consistent with Jackson County, **John Knox Village has lifted its mask mandate for independent living residents, effective Friday, May 14.** However, all associates are still wearing their masks indoors at the Village.

When we sent the May 14 *Mid-Month Voice* to be printed, we knew it was risky publishing the

plan early, as things could change rapidly, and they certainly have. We are still working our way through how these new public policy changes affect daily life and business at the Village – as well as how they change the **Phase III Independent Living Reopening Plan, set to start on June 1.**

Many of the changes we need to make are pretty straightforward and have been integrated into a revised plan, as listed below.

We will continue watching what is happening on our own campus and “out there” in the surrounding community. If there is an outbreak on campus, a significant increase in the local COVID-19 reproductive rate, or if the county makes further changes, this plan could also change. We will keep you informed.

To Wear a Mask or to Not Wear a Mask: That is the Question

If you are **fully vaccinated**, but you feel more comfortable wearing a mask while you are out in public, please feel free to continue to do so.

- **In general, you are fully vaccinated** two weeks after the final dose of the vaccine you received.
- If you are **not fully vaccinated**, the CDC still recommends that you continue to wear your mask when outside your home.
- Independent living residents who use John Knox Village transportation do not need to wear masks on JKV buses.
- **When leaving the campus, be sure to take your mask with you.** Some area businesses and other parts of the Kansas City metropolitan area still require masks indoors. Also, masks are still required in health care settings, at transportation hubs (such as airports) and while traveling on planes or other public transportation.
- **We ask that resident guests follow the same recommendations listed above.** *Continued ...*

FACTS NOT FEAR

COVID-19 Coronavirus



STAY INFORMED:

John Knox Village: Regular updates, including changes to events and services at www.JKVLife.org and www.JKV.org

National Updates: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: www.cdc.gov

SEEK CARE:

Symptoms such as: fever, dry cough, shortness of breath or a sore throat? Call the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services **HOTLINE 1-877-435-8411** and your healthcare provider immediately.

LET US KNOW:

Call John Knox Village Public Safety at 347-2150 IMMEDIATELY if you:

- Suspect that at any time in the past 14 days you've been exposed to, or
- Have been diagnosed with the COVID-19 Coronavirus.

REVISED PLAN SET TO START: TUESDAY, JUNE 1

KEY POINTS TO REMEMBER

- **COVID-19 is NOT over.**
- Masks are still required in the Village Care Center and Village Assisted Living.
- Around 95% of independent living residents were fully vaccinated at our on-site clinics.
- All associates, regardless of vaccination status, will continue wearing masks while indoors on the John Knox Village campus.
- We will not be policing guests. We hope that unvaccinated guests will respect the safety of our senior living community and wear their masks.
- We all still bear personal responsibility to keep others safe. Please use your P.R.I.D.E.
- **In all cases: Do not gather with others if you are diagnosed with or have been exposed to COVID-19, or have any COVID-like symptoms.**

REVISED INDEPENDENT LIVING GENERAL GUIDELINES

- **Face masks are optional for residents and guests.**
- **Social distancing is no longer required.**
- **Guests are welcome to visit in common areas.**

DINING GUIDELINES

- Dining rooms can operate at full capacity.
- Residents may dine together with their guests.
- Associates may dine together with their guests.
- A limited number of tables of 6 or 8 may be available, depending on the restaurant.
- No non-resident groups in the dining rooms.

Be Kind, and Be Safe

These changes offer us several more steps toward getting back to a more normal life-style. However, please remember that some people may feel more comfortable by continuing to use this added layer of protection, regardless of their vaccination status. You don't know their story. Please respect every individual's choice.

If you have questions, feel free to contact either Maria Timberlake or Brian Opoka, or your area manager, and we will do our best to find an answer for you.

GATHERING GUIDELINES

Food and drink options may vary, based on location, event type, etc. Please inquire when making your reservation.

Indoor Gatherings in Non-Pavilion Event Spaces – Residents ONLY

- 100% resident-only attendance. (Outside entertainers are OK.)
- Rooms can be seated at full capacity.

Indoor Gatherings in Non-Pavilion Event Spaces – Village-sponsored (Including NON-residents)

- Rooms can be seated at full capacity.
- Non-Pavilion event spaces continue to be reserved for Village use only. However, there is limited availability at Sun Valley Clubhouse for resident family events.

PAVILION GUIDELINES

Resident-Only Pavilion Events

- 100% resident ONLY attendance. (Outside entertainers OK.)
- Seating can be at full capacity.

Public Events at The Pavilion

- Seating limited to 600 people. (Not including entertainers.)

RECREATION

- Fitness centers, pools, locker rooms, showers, and the bowling alley are open and returning to regular hours.
- Guests at pools: See p. 22 of the Resident Handbook.

ADDITIONAL RESIDENT SERVICES AND ACTIVITIES REOPENING

- **Art Room**
- **Card games, puzzles, etc.**
- **Grocery Bus** – By appointment only. Watch for more details
- **Movie Theater** – Open at full capacity.
- **Salons** – Open at full capacity, including waiting areas. Blow-drying available.
- **Volunteers** – Resident and non-resident volunteers can resume.
- **Guest rooms:** Now taking reservations for this summer.
- **NOTE: Performing arts program** will resume after the summer break.

John Knox Village