



NOTICE REGARDING VACCINATION OR TESTING OF PRIVATE CAREGIVERS AS OF 9/7/21

Dear Arbors Resident, Staff, Families and Caregiver Agencies,

As you may know, Governor's Lamont's recent Executive Order (13 B) requires staff and contractors hired by assisted living and managed residential communities to receive at least their first dose of COVID vaccines no later than September 7, 2021.

In a statement, Governor Lamont said it would “**absolutely irresponsible**” for staffers not to be vaccinated, **given the vulnerability of the people in their care**- and we agree! That is why over 99% of Arbors staff and 100% of our residents are **already** vaccinated.

ALERT: It is very important to note that the **Governor's mandate does not include home health care or private duty caregivers**. Thus, visiting nurses, contractors or aides from outside companies **may or may not** be vaccinated against COVID-19.

As the highly contagious Delta variant spreads, unvaccinated individuals remain at high risk and can spread the virus to others, **including vaccinated individuals**. Our residents are some of the most vulnerable individuals to the consequences of contracting COVID-19.

To support resident safety, effective September 7, 2021:

Arbors will be requiring caregivers to present proof of at least one dose of COVID-19 vaccination, OR a negative COVID-19 test collected within 7 days. Rapid test or PCR results will be accepted.

Caregivers who cannot document vaccination of a negative COVID-19 test within the last 7 days will be directed to obtain testing or proof of vaccination prior to entry.

Please note: per state of Connecticut and CDC requirements, all caregivers, regardless of vaccination status, are mandated to mask while providing personal care.

For Residents & Families:

We strongly encourage you to ask your home care provider if caregivers are vaccinated. Residents may opt to ask their agency to provide vaccinated staff in lieu of unvaccinated staff.

If you hire a private caregiver, please be sure to communicate this requirement to them to avoid service disruptions. We will be sending notifications to agencies commonly working inside this building including Faith Care, Right at Home, Always Best Care, VNHSC, & Angelic Home Health.

For Caregiver Agencies:

We call for all senior care employers to require their employees to be vaccinated against COVID-19. **This is the logical fulfillment of the ethical commitment of all healthcare workers to put client's safety and wellbeing as a primary priority.** 71% of Connecticut have already received at least one dose- **help us protect our residents!**

For Persons with Missing Vaccination Cards:

Residents: See nursing

All others missing proof of vaccination: If you lost your COVID vaccination card and you were vaccinated in Connecticut, contact CT WiZ - the statewide Immunization Information System (IIS). Proof of Identification is necessary.

Call: 860-509-7929 or fax request & proof of identification to: 860-509-8370 or Email Khristie.walser@ct.gov

Thank you for your continued vigilance and consideration of our valued residents!

Sincerely, Chanté Drasdis, Executive Director

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