



Family Communication and Family Visits:

IRA Visits: Visits by family members (maximum of two family members per person at any given time) of people residing in CP of the North Country Residential homes will be permitted outdoors on the grounds of the residence under specific circumstances. Prior to any visit at the residence:

- The family member must be screened over the phone or in person for symptoms (cough, difficulty breathing, shortness of breath, or fever), for potential exposure to someone with confirmed or suspected COVID-19 within the past 14 days. Temperatures will be taken. This screening of family members will be documented by the workforce member. If the answer is yes to any of the questions, the family member will be informed that the visit cannot take place.
- The agency will thoroughly discuss the potential risks and benefits of the visitor's presence with the visitor and the resident ahead of a scheduled visit. All other residents should be notified ahead of time that visitors will be present and advised how to remain socially distant from them.
- Masks must be worn by family member(s) when they visit. People who are able to tolerate a mask should wear a mask as well. Family members will be informed that they are to bring their own mask. If a family member neglects to bring a mask, a mask will be provided to them to minimize any disappointment on behalf the person supported. Family Members who refuse to wear a face mask must be asked to leave the IRA.
- The family members will also be provided gloves and hand sanitizer. Family Members must sanitize their hands upon arrival and perform meticulous hand hygiene throughout the visit. All visits will be conducted in a designated well ventilated area such as the garage with doors open or a covered deck outside of the home with the individual positioned 6 feet apart from visitor(s) even during meal times.
- The Family Members must be over 18 years of age, the visit cannot exceed four hours and must be arranged and approved by the IRA House Manager to ensure family visits are staggered and not occurring at the same time.
- The spaced utilized must be disinfected after each visit and documented on the daily cleaning list that was previously provided.
- At this time no outside food is allowed to be brought during the visit. Any meals will be provided by the IRA during the visit.
- Visitation remains prohibited anywhere except within sight of the residential IRA and shall include not sitting in a non-agency vehicle or family members taking people to stores or restaurants and come back as visits must be monitored by staff.
- All family visits will be documented on the visitor log that is already in place for the IRA.
- If there is a positive case of COVID-19 at the IRA then no visits can occur until the Local Health Department has released the person(s) from quarantine.