



Our Lady of Prompt Succor Nursing Facility
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www.promptsuccor.com

Visitor Restriction

March 13, 2020

To Our Residents and Family Members:

The current COVID-19 pandemic means that it is critical we take every precaution possible to prevent this virus from entering our facility. Protecting our residents' health and safety is our top priority.

On March 12, 2020, the Louisiana Department of Health issued guidance requiring licensed healthcare facilities to **IMMEDIATELY PROHIBIT** all non-essential visitors for 30 days. Specific guidance is posted on our website at www.promptsuccor.com.

The CDC has done a careful review of the death rate in the elderly, especially those with dementia or chronic diseases. Experts are recommending we take action to limit individuals from entering our building and to ensure sick employees stay home.

Early data shows that:

- The mortality rate for people over 80 in the general population is 15% in China.
- The World Health Organization report estimates the mortality rate at 21.9% for those over 80.
- At the nursing home in Washington State, there have been 50 residents who have tested positive for the COVID-19 virus. As of March 9, 2020, 19 of those have died. This is a high death rate.

There is a risk that people who appear healthy will enter nursing homes and infect residents. Studies of past viral epidemics where recommending prevention was delayed, was also found ineffective. These studies show that the sooner we limit interactions with each other, the sooner the spread of the virus will slow down.

These facts have led many to recommend severe limitations on visitors. This describes why we have taken this action now. Visitors will not be allowed to come into our facility, *except for certain situations, such as end-of-life situations or when a visitor is essential for the resident's emotional well-being and care.* Nursing supervisors will review these situations on an individual basis.

We hope this explains to you why we are restricting visitations at this time. This may prevent you from physically seeing your family member or friend. Our residents' health and safety are our top concern. We are committed to doing everything we can to protect them.

Please contact us at (337) 948-3634 with any questions. Please make sure we have your latest contact information. Thank you for supporting these efforts.

Sincerely,

Michael Purser, Administrator