

# Keystone Nursing Care Center

## Monthly Newsletter

January 2021

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### From the desk of the Administrator

#### Resident's Rights:

Each resident has the right to formulate an advance directive and to be informed of the facility's policy to implement advance directives and applicable state law.

Here at the care center, we have begun using the IPOST (Iowa Physicians Order for Scope of Treatment) forms for our residents. These forms ask specific questions regarding the residents wishes for their health care. Once these are completed they follow each resident when they leave the facility for reasons such as a doctor's appointment or hospital or emergency care.

These forms give us as well as family members an idea of exactly what the residents wishes are in times of need.

If you have any questions regarding this resident's right, please contact Tracy Hanson, Administrator or Cindy Behrens, Social Worker at the Care Center.  
319-442-3234.

### HOME HEALTH: Help Wanted

#### We are looking to fill two RN positions.

You must have a current RN license, be detail oriented, and have a strong ability to work independently. You will need a valid driver's license, vehicle insurance and a reliable vehicle. We offer a flexible schedule, reimbursement for phone and mileage, great benefits and an awesome team to support you. If you are interested contact Erika at 319-442-3650.

### Help Wanted:

We are looking for a weekend nurse to work short shifts (4 hour shift: 2p-6p). If interested or have questions, please contact Lindsay Niebes, RN, DON at 319-442-3234. You can also get our applications for employment on our website.



Be prepared for weather changes! The parking lots and roads can become very slick. *Please* take extra caution when walking in the parking lot if you are coming to drop off anything for your loved ones!



### Meals on Wheels Reminder:

If you are receiving meals on wheels from the care center, please be sure to have a clear path to your door for the drivers to drop off your meal safely as needed this winter.

In inclement weather please tune into KGAN CBS Channel 2/FOX 28 for cancellations.

If you have any questions please contact Dietary Supervisor September Sackett at the care center 319-442-3234.

## **Iowa Health Care Association urges continued caution to protect Iowa's long-term care residents 'COVID-19 vaccine is on the horizon, but we're not out of the woods yet'**

Iowa nursing facility staff and residents will see first doses of the COVID-19 vaccine arriving as soon as Dec. 28, now that the U.S. Food and Drug Administration has approved Pfizer's request for emergency use authorization (EUA) and vaccine shipments are arriving in Iowa. However, that does not mean it is yet safe to visit loved ones in Iowa nursing homes this holiday season.

"The coming delivery of this vaccine to our long-term care residents and staff is welcome news. This has been a brutal year for our state's elderly and those with pre-existing medical conditions who reside in long-term care settings. The vaccine is our best defense in protecting them and finding our way back to normal," said Brent Willett, president and CEO of the Iowa Health Care Association (IHCA), an organization that works with Iowa's long-term care providers. "A COVID-19 vaccine is on the horizon, but we are not out of the woods yet. Given the two-dose administration process for the vaccine, the durability of the immunity produced by the vaccine for our nursing home residents and staff will not be known until March at the earliest."

The vaccine requires two doses be administered before it becomes fully effective, with a waiting period between doses of 21 days. The vaccine is being distributed to Iowa's 430 nursing facilities through the federal LTC Pharmacy Partnership Program. The program utilizes three federally approved pharmacies to distribute and administer the vaccine: Community Pharmacy, CVS and Walgreens. The pharmacies are scheduling clinics across the state to deliver and administer the vaccine to the more than 25,500 nursing facility employees and over 19,000 residents. The first of these clinics for long-term care will begin the week of Dec. 28. It will take three to four weeks to administer the first dose to Iowa nursing facility residents and staff. The administration of the second dose is anticipated to begin Feb. 2 and run through early March.

In the meantime, the IHCA urges continued caution during the winter holidays to protect Iowa's long-term care residents and staff. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) safety guidelines recommend that older individuals and those with medical conditions that put them at increased risk of severe illness from COVID-19 avoid in person gatherings with people not in their household. For long-term care residents, this means people who live outside of the facility where they reside. In addition, visitation protocols for nursing homes are defined by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) and current guidelines do not allow for in person visits to nursing facilities when a county's COVID-19 positivity rate is higher than 10%, except in certain compassionate care scenarios.

"We know this has been an incredibly difficult year for Iowa families, but there is a light on the horizon. We can reach it if we remain disciplined and diligent. We have come too far and lost too many loved ones to let our guard down now," added Willett. "This holiday season, the best thing you can do for your loved ones in long-term care is follow the recommended safety guidelines. This year make a phone call or send a card to share your holiday For Immediate Release: Dec. 16, 2020 Contact: Lori Ristau, Senior Vice President, Strategic Communications 800-422-3106 | [lori@iowahealthcare.org](mailto:lori@iowahealthcare.org) wishes. If we all do our part this holiday to keep the virus from spreading and give the vaccine time to do its work, we can protect the safety of our Iowa seniors and look forward to brighter days ahead."

About the Iowa Health Care Association The Iowa Health Care Association (IHCA), along with its affiliates the Iowa Center for Assisted Living (ICAL) and Iowa Center for Home Care (IHC), is an integrated statewide association serving organizations that provide postacute health care to improve the lives of Iowans, including nursing facilities, assisted living, residential care, senior living communities and home health agencies.



# Activity Announcements

### Volunteer Reminder:

We have a special gift for those of you that have been a part of our volunteer group and hope that you will call be back with us soon! Please contact the care center between 8am -4pm Monday through Friday to pick yours up!! Thank you to you all!!!

Congratulations to Brenda Engelking for 30 years of dedication to the care center. We are so very blessed and grateful for all that Brenda does. She goes above and beyond for not only our residents but their families and other staff members as well. Please pass congratulations on to Brenda!!



Reindeer Season at the care center!!



Getting ready for Christmas decorating cookies and a surprise visit from Santa and his elf!!



Thank you to the Benton Keystone Elementary students for caroling for the residents! They always enjoy seeing our





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Keystone Nursing Care Center  
250 5th Street  
Keystone, IA 52249

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

## *UPCOMING EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES*

- Due to the isolation requirements we continue to have to uphold, all events and activities have been cancelled for the month of January. If you have any questions please let us know. Thank you for your understanding as we get through this pandemic together, safely.

If you know anyone that would like to receive our newsletter please call 319-442-3234 with name and address. You can also find it on line at [www.keystonecarecenter.com](http://www.keystonecarecenter.com)

Keystone Nursing Care Center does not discriminate against any person on the basis of race, color, national origin, disability, or age in admission, treatment, or participation in its programs, services and activities, or in employment. For further information about this policy contact: Tracy Hanson, Administrator, Section 504 Coordinator, PH. 319-442-3234, TTY/State Relay PH. 800-735-2943.