



Dacier Manor In-Person Visitation Policy

Revised 4.6.2022 to Reflect the State of Florida "No Patient Left Alone Act"

Policy Statement

The administration and staff of Dacier Manor understand the importance of the residents in our Assisted living Facility (ALF) having the ability to spend time with loved ones, family and friends. During the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency (PHE) indoor general visitation for ALF residents was restricted in an effort to protect the health and safety of the residents and of the staff who are essential to the provision of the care and assistance required by our residents.

This Dacier Manor visitation policy has been updated to reflect the provisions of the April 6, 2022, State of Florida Senate Bill 988, "No Patient Left Alone Act." In accordance with that act, Dacier Manor will not restrict regular visitation without a reasonable clinical or safety cause consistent with F.A.C. Rule 59A-36.007 (10) infection Control Procedures and Florida Statutes Chapter 429.28 (d) Resident Bill of Rights. Dacier Manor policies will continue to be revised to reflect updates in the regulatory guidance for Assisted Living facilities in Florida.

Dacier Manor administrative staff will provide their visitation policies and procedures to the Agency for Health Care Administration (AHCA).when applying for licensure renewal, or change of ownership. In addition, Dacier Manor will make the visitation policies and procedures accessible from the homepage of their website.

Procedures:

In-Person Visitation

1. Dacier Manor is an assisted living facility (ALF) designed to provide personal care services in the least restrictive and most home-like environment possible while providing services to its residents in accordance with the laws and rules of the State of Florida with oversight by the State of Florida's Agency for Health Care Administration (AHCA).
2. Dacier Manor administration and staff adhere to the Florida Statutes Chapter 429 Part I governing Assisted Living Facilities. Section 429.28 of the law details the Resident Bill of Rights that Dacier Manor abides by. Dacier Manor staff honor the visitation rights of their residents and ensure that facility residents are assured under item (1) (d) of the law: "Unrestricted private communication, including receiving and sending unopened correspondence, access to a telephone, and **visiting** with any person of his or her choice, at any time between the hours of 9 a.m. and 9 p.m. at a minimum. Upon request, the facility shall make provisions to extend visiting hours for caregivers and out-of-town guests, and in other similar situations."

3. Residents are advised in the Dacier Manor Handbook that visitors are made welcome at any reasonable hour with typical visitation hours being from 9:00 am until 9:00 pm. As a security measure for residents, the entrance and exit doors are locked at 9:00 pm; however visitation at Dacier Manor is allowed outside of these hours for visitors who request admittance by ringing the doorbell at the front entrance. There is no limitation placed on the number of visitors.
4. If a resident and their visitor wish to continue the visit beyond 9:00 pm when in a shared room, the visit may be continued outside the room in a suitable location in the facility to allow for the privacy of the roommate.
5. Dacier Manor does not prohibit consensual physical contact between a facility resident and their visitor(s).
6. The Dacier Manor Manager is responsible for ensuring that all staff adhere to the policies and procedures outlined in this document.

Designation of and In-person Visitation by an Essential Caregiver

In accordance with the April 6, 2022, State of Florida, SB 988, “No Resident Left Alone Act,” Section 2. Section 408.823, (2) (b) Florida Statutes, a Dacier Manor resident may designate a visitor who is a family member, friend, guardian, or other individual as an essential caregiver. Dacier Manor must allow in-person visitation by the essential caregiver for at least 2 hours daily in addition to any other visitation authorized by the Dacier Manor In-Person Visitation Policy.

The “No Resident Left Alone Act” does not require an essential caregiver to provide necessary care to a resident and the staff at Dacier Manor will not require an essential caregiver to provide such care. Residents have the right to decline to designate an essential caregiver; however, when designated, the identity of the essential caregiver will be documented in the resident’s record.

Special Circumstances Requiring In-Person Visitation

In accordance with the April 6, 2022, State of Florida, SB 988, “No Resident Left Alone Act,” Dacier Manor must and will allow in-person visitation in all of the following circumstances unless the resident/patient objects:

- End-of-Life situations;
- With a resident/patient who is struggling with a change in environment and the lack of in-person family support when having previously lived with family before admission to Dacier Manor;
- With a resident/patient is experiencing emotional distress or is grieving the loss of a friend or family member who has recently died;
- With a resident/patient who is in the process of making one or more major medical decisions;
- With a resident/patient who needs cueing or encouragement to eat or drink when that assistance was previously provided by a family member or caregiver; and/or
- With a resident/patient who used to talk and interact with others who is now seldom speaking.

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Infection Control Protocols Including Screening, Use of Personal Protective Equipment and Education for Dacier Manor Visitors

Resident care including visitation at Dacier Manor will be conducted in accordance with the Florida Administrative Code Chapter 59A-36.007 (10) Infection Control procedures, whereby Dacier Manor must provide services in a manner that reduces the risk of transmission of infectious diseases. Under this rule, Dacier Manor must use Standard precautions when there is an anticipated exposure to transmissible infectious agents in blood, body fluids, secretions, excretions, non-intact skin, and mucous membranes during the provision of personal services. Standard precautions include: hand hygiene, and dependent upon the exposure, use of gloves, gown, mask, eye protection, or a face shield.

Due to the recent Public Health Emergency caused by SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19) and in order to reduce the risk of COVID-19 transmission, Dacier Manor administration has incorporated guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in their infection control protocols for the protection of their vulnerable residents, staff and visitors. All staff, visitors and other persons entering Dacier Manor will be screened for signs and symptoms of COVID-19 using the screening Kiosk and automated temperature check or the hard copy screening tool in use at Dacier Manor in conjunction with a manual temperature check.

1. The Dacier Manor administrative staff have the responsibility to deny entry to the facility of any persons failing to meet the screening guidelines including those with a positive viral test, with signs or symptoms of COVID-19 or who meet the criteria for quarantine for COVID-19.
2. Visitors will not be required to submit proof of any vaccination or immunization to Dacier Manor staff.
3. Visitor education will be provided on:
 - Screening guidelines
 - COVID-19 signs and symptoms;
 - Dacier Manor infection control precautions;
 - Requirements for the use of face coverings;
 - Proper hand hygiene:
 - Permissible entrance and exit doors to use when arriving and departing the facility.
4. All visitors will follow the proper method for completing hand hygiene during their visit with the proper use of alcohol-based hand rub being the preferred method.
5. All visitors must wear a face covering or mask covering their mouth and nose at all times when entering Dacier Manor, while inside the facility's common areas and when around Dacier Manor staff and other residents.
6. All visitors will be encouraged to adhere to the CDC Guidance for physical distancing of at least 6 feet from staff and other residents during their visit.
7. Instructional signage with source control information for visitors and staff will be placed in the facility.

8. Dacier Manor administration may require a visitor to agree in writing to follow the policies and procedures established for their facility.
9. Dacier Manor administration may suspend in-person visitation of a specific visitor if the visitor violates the policies and procedures on which they have been educated.
10. Dacier Manor staff will appropriately use and wear PPE and adhere to all safety-related policies and procedures set-forth by the facility for staff and visitors.
11. Staff will clean and disinfect high-frequency touched surfaces often and will clean and disinfect the common visitation areas.
12. Dacier Manor administration may choose to periodically test their staff for COVID-19 based on Suwannee County's community transmission rate published by the CDC.