

Essential Visitors Designation Authorization

The Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) has provided guidance regarding allowing “**Essential Visitors**”. Phoenix will follow the guidance recommended by the MDH to allow individuals residing at Phoenix to designate a person or persons they wish to serve in the role of essential visitor. An “Essential Visitor (EV)” is someone who had regular involvement/ visits in the individual’s life prior to restrictions implemented due to COVID-19.

If an individual and/ or guardian are interested in designating someone to serve in the role of (EV) they must notify the Program Manager. The Program Manager will seek authorization from Phoenix administration. The “Essential Visitor” must be authorized through this process. Individuals not on the (EV) list must follow visitor guideline for outside visiting.

Essential Visitors must agree to guidelines established for COVID-19 monitoring and tasks outlined to minimize the spread. Visiting will be limited to the person’s bedroom or outside.

- Must agree to wear eye protection and a mask,
- Complete symptoms screening documentation prior to the visit,
- Must adhere to hand washing / sanitizing protocols and
- Maintain social distance from the staff and others in the home.
- Must remain in the person’s bedroom for the entire visit unless they exit the home for outdoor activity.
- The Essential Visitor **must not visit if they have signs or symptoms illness, or signs of COVID-19 and or respiratory illness. If an EV is diagnosed positive for COVID-19 within 14 days of the scheduled visit they will not be allowed to visit.**
- Essential Visitor must remain in the designated visiting area of the home and must keep their distance, at least 6 feet, from the staff and others residing in the home.
- “Essential Visitors” will not be allowed to move around the home as this will interfere with our ability to maintain social distancing within the home and maintain safety of others in the home.
- The Essential Visitor must arrange the visit ahead with the Program Manager and must identify a schedule of up to 3 hours. No more than (2) Essential Visitors will be allowed during the same timeframe in the home. Please note outside visiting guidelines will remain in place, so outside visitors may continue as is with current practice.

VISITORS NOT RECOMMENDED if PEOPLE are ILL in the home or

- **We do not recommend any visitors in the home if individuals in the home are ill or the loved one of the EV is ill.** However, if the Essential Visitor decides to visit despite this guideline and their loved one is experiencing a respiratory illness the **Essential Visitor must wear full PPE including gown, gloves, facial protection and mask as is being followed by the staff in the home.** The Essential Visitor must follow posted protocol to don / doff PPE appropriately. Phoenix cannot provide PPE – EV must secure their own PPE prior to the visit. In this case the EV must remain in the individual’s bedroom and may not access any other area in the home.

Service Recipient and or Guardian:

Signature _____

I would like to designate the person listed below as an Essential Visitor:

_____ Date: _____

Essential Visitor Signature:

I have Read and Agree to Comply with these Guidelines:

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Approved by _____ Date: _____