COVID-19 Long-term Care Resources for Individuals and Families

**People Who Live in a Nursing Home or Long-Term Care Facility**

Many cases of COVID-19 in the U.S. have occurred among older adults living in nursing homes or long-term care facilities. The communal nature of nursing homes and long-term care facilities, and the population served (generally older adults often with underlying medical conditions), put those living in nursing homes at higher risk of severe illness from COVID-19.

**COVID-19 in Facilities**

Facilities having COVID-19 cases within their facility shall provide notification to all residents, residents’ sponsor and/or the residents’ guardians within 24-hours.The notification shall include steps the facility is taking to reduce the spread of the infection within the facility.

**Actions you or your loved one can take:**

* Stay in your room except for medically necessary purposes.
* Notify staff immediately if you feel sick.
* If leaving the room, wear a facemask, perform hand hygiene, limit your movement in the facility and perform social distancing (stay at least 6 feet away from others).
* Carefully follow your facility’s instructions for infection prevention.
* Ask your caretakers about the actions that are being taken at your nursing home or long-term care facility to protect you and your loved ones.

**Visitation:** Visitation privileges are prohibited at these facilities in order to protect residents who are at high risk for developing severe illness from COVID-19. End of life situations are the only exceptions.

**Long-Term Care Advocates**

A long-term care ombudsman advocates for the rights of home care consumers and residents of long-term care facilities. Anyone can call the ombudsman to voice a concern or obtain information about long-term care settings such as nursing homes, residential care facilities (commonly known as “assisted living”) and adult care facilities.

**Contact:** Alexis Simpson **Phone:** 614- 345-9198 or 1-800-536-5891

**Email:** ombudsman@easterseals-cseohio.org **Website:** [www.centralohio.easterseals.com](http://www.centralohio.easterseals.com)

**Central Ohio Area Agency on Aging (COAAA)**

COAAA arranges and coordinates services to help individuals with daily living such as homemaking, transportation, home delivered meals and personal care.

**Phone:** 614-645-7705 **Email:** pcallahan@coaaa.org **Website:** [www.coaaa.org](http://www.coaaa.org)

**Franklin County Office on Aging**

The Franklin County Office on Aging is primarily responsible for planning, coordinating, and providing centralized access to diverse services and programs that assist older adults, dependent adults and their families in the maintenance of independent living.

**Administration:** 614-525-5230 **Adult Protect Services:** 614-525-4348

**Senior Options:** 614-525-6200 **Website:** <https://officeonaging.org>

*4/17/2020*