



South Peninsula Hospital  
Long Term Care  
4300 Bartlett Street  
Homer, AK 99603  
(907) 235-0233

## Long Term Care

---

Dear Resident, Family Member, and/or Legal Representatives:

August 5, 2021

It has been nearly three weeks since we experienced a COVID-19 outbreak in Long Term Care, in the form of two sick employees testing positive on July 17 and July 25. Keep in mind, our regulations consider one or more persons (whether staff or resident) to be an “outbreak.” The positivity rates on the Kenai Peninsula Borough remain higher than they have ever been, and SPH continues to see sick patients in the emergency room and the hospital every day. Thankfully, no residents have tested positive yet. We consider that to be a serious accomplishment, thanks in part to your diligence in following our mitigation strategy.

Rachael Kincaid, DNP, Director of Nursing continues to work with State of Alaska’s Department of Epidemiology; we have the guidance of an expert physician assigned to us. Additionally, we are supported by an attentive Medical Director, Dr. Johnson, as well as a dedicated infection prevention nurse.

Effective now, we will return to our previous visitation program. Please reference my letter dated April 29, 2021. You can also find it on our LTC website: <https://www.sphosp.org/services/long-term-care/>. Simply call the facility to make an appointment to see your loved one (235-0233).

Our testing plan continues. All LTC residents and all staff will be tested for COVID-19 at a minimum of once per week, regardless of vaccination status.

Please be aware that both in Alaska and nationally, we are clearly in another very serious COVID-19 outbreak that has proven worse than last year’s. Hospitals across the State continue to experience a strong influx of COVID+ patients with inpatient and emergency departments at greater than ideal capacity.

We will keep you informed as we move through the next several days. Thank you for your consideration and observance of our plans to keep everyone safe. You may direct questions to Rachael Kincaid or Dr. Johnson.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Barbara L. Bigelow".

Barbara L. Bigelow, LTC Administrator  
907.821.1990

c: Rachael Kincaid, DNP, Director of Nursing (907.235.0230)  
Teresa Johnson, MD, Medical Director (907.235.0230)  
SPH Public Website

**Modes of Communication for this publication: SPH website and email**

