

Moana House & Village

Newsletter: Special Edition 5



13th May 2020

We have now got advice from the Ministry of Health, they call level 2 as “play it safe”.

They do identify the complex situation that we are faced with of caring for our vulnerable residents, the needs of the community, the needs of the families and the safety of the staff. There is a risk of transmission of the virus that may be unidentified in the community.

The residents have been in their ‘bubble’, albeit with physical distancing and precautions to protect them and now the greater community is opening up with potentially increased risk presented through visitors and staff who have extended their respective contacts. The potential risk that can be posed through unknown contact at cafes or in a shopping mall is huge. The community so depends on trust that everyone will comply and attend to the basic mantra:

Hand hygiene
Coughing/sneezing etiquette
Surface cleansing
Stay home if you have respiratory symptoms

Added to this, it can take up to 14 days for the virus to manifest itself into recognisable disease, so if you have been in contact with anyone with confirmed, suspected or probable COVID-19 in the last 14 days you would be expected to stay at home and be seeking medical advice.

During level 3 and 4 at Moana House we established extended ‘bubbles’ to keep the rest home and hospital separate as much as possible and ensured that the staffing was allocated in such a way that should we have an event occur we could isolate sections and staff to maximise safety. While New Zealand experts, from the Director General of Health down have managed this crisis well, there is always the potential that until there is good immunity in this country to the devastating virus, we are not safe. We would have to be prepared to go back to the stringent measures of level 3 or above. If we keep the plan in place the hope is that we would not have to use it!

We are progressing through level 2 to something less but not in a hurry– turn to page 2 for what now.



Residents:

You have all done fantastically with the physical distancing and coping with the rearranged lounge/dining room areas. You will be able to be seated closer now but the staff will still be ensuring that you keep up the hand hygiene, coughing/sneezing etiquette and if you don't feel well, please tell your nurse. We are asking visitors to respect physical distancing.

Visitors:

Hand hygiene

Remembering that the residents at Moana House are a vulnerable community we are wanting to ensure their continued safety.

Visiting is between the hours of 10am and 4pm- 1/2 hour only please & 1 metre dist.

One person at a time and a maximum of two visitors per person per day.

If any other visitors want to visit the resident they will need to remain outside the window but in so doing must respect others physical distance of 2 metres.

Visits will need to take place in the residents room.

Visitors must be over the age of 16

Coughing/sneezing etiquette

Tracing & tracking people coming into the facility is essential. There will be two public entrances only. Both have a camera. You must sign in and out with details of who you are visiting and your contact details. For people wanting to visit in the hospital wing, the entrance is through Stewart wing. The rest home entrance is through the main entrance. Please do not go between the hospital and rest home wings. If you need to, use the outside route.

Day care:

We are still working through the logistics of managing day care clients safely as they normally mingle with the residents. It will be a staged approach over the next few weeks and we will be taking in fewer numbers. We appreciate that there is a major need in the community and the pressure on some families over recent weeks would have been significant. We also are aware that there has been further referrals during the lockdown period. The staff will contact you over the next couple of weeks to determine how we can best accommodate your need.

Respite:

Like day care these bookings have been cancelled during lockdown and we are sure the break would have been looked forward to. The guidelines at this stage are unclear from the Ministry regarding isolation so we will get back to you further when we know.

Volunteers & Service personnel

These will all start to get back to the 'new normal' on individual arrangement