

**THE SALVATION ARMY
MEIGHEN HEALTH CENTRE
1. Administration**

Subject: Visitation Policy	Policy: 1.1.14
Effective Date: June 17, 2020	Site: IAMM
Revised: August 1, 2025	Approved By: Monica Klein-Nouri

STATEMENT OF POLICY

The visitor policy of the Meighen Health Centre strives to balance the need to mitigate risks to residents, staff, and visitors while providing the opportunity to connect with friends and family.

This policy is subject to change depending on provincial directives, community prevalence of infectious agents, resources available to screen and manage visitors safely, and current conditions within the home. Changes to the visitor policy will be communicated via email; a copy will be uploaded to the Home's website under the Infection Prevention tab, posted on the bulletin board at Reception, and made available upon request. Should the home go into an outbreak or, for other reasons, be required to close entirely to visitors, families will be notified via Engage+ and/or email as quickly as possible and/or via telephone.

A schedule of general visits is not required to be maintained now. There are no restrictions regarding the number of visitors. However, we strongly encourage visitors to limit the number to 3 visitors at a time indoors.

Information about respiratory etiquette, hand hygiene, infection prevention and control practices, and proper PPE use will be provided as needed and may change according to needs.

In outbreak situations or if a resident is on additional precautions, all individuals must comply with masking and other personal protective equipment requirements as directed by the outbreak management team and the local public health unit. Only essential care givers can continue to visit in outbreak unit/s and visitor to limit the number to 1 at a time.

The following measures are in place:

- Everyone must self-screen for symptoms or exposure to COVID-19 before entering the Home and must not visit if they are sick (24 hours after respiratory symptoms and 48 hours after gastrointestinal symptoms)
- Visitors with COVID-19 must not visit the Home for 10 days after symptom onset or positive test result
- Infection prevention and control measures will continue to be followed, including hand washing and enhanced cleaning

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Pets are welcomed, provided their required vaccinations are up to date, and they remain on a leash at all times.

Our priority is the health and safety of the residents, their families, and the well-being of our staff members.

TYPES OF VISITORS- DEFINITIONS

Essential Visitors

Essential visitors are defined as persons performing essential support services (e.g. food delivery, maintenance or health care services), caregivers (essential visitors designated by the resident and/or their substitute decision-maker) or persons visiting a very ill or palliative resident. Caregivers must be at least 18 years of age. The Home keeps a list of essential visitors updated regularly and as needed.

In exceptional circumstances, this is the approval process for caregivers under 16: If a caregiver under the age of 16 is to be designated, the following process must be followed: -

- Parental/Guardian Approval: A parent or legal guardian must provide written consent for the designation of a caregiver under 16.
- Documentation: The Home will maintain documentation of this approval as part of the resident's records.
- Review Process: The decision to designate a caregiver under 16 will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis to ensure the safety and well-being of the resident and the young caregiver.

Effective April 1, 2023, visitors are not required to be vaccinated for COVID-19, and visitor numbers are not limited. However, we highly recommend that all visitors keep their vaccination status current.

General Visitors (Indoor & Outdoor Visits)

All other visitors, except children under 1 year of age, are considered general visitors.

MANAGING SAFE VISITS

The home has the discretion to supervise visits to manage health and safety during visits. Where the need to supervise visits arises, the supervision will be implemented to respect the residents' right to communicate confidently, receive visitors of their choice, and consult in private with any person without interference.

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Outdoor Visits

- We encourage all visits outdoors; they do not need to be scheduled
- Passive screening is mandatory

Indoor Visits

- **passive screening is mandatory.**
- All visitors are required to log-in electronically at the reception.
- There is no requirement for proof of vaccination
- If the resident visited is in isolation, the visitors must wear the required Personal Protective Equipment and review the Public Health Ontario resources regarding hand washing, putting on and taking off PPE are provided in the appendix of this policy

Visitor Logs

The Meighen Health Centre will maintain visitor logs for at least 30 days. These logs will include the visitor's name, contact information, date and time of the visit, and the name of the resident visited. This ensures compliance with Ontario Regulation 246/22.

NON-ADHERENCE BY VISITORS

Non-compliance with this policy could result in the discontinuation of visits for non-compliant visitors.

Responding to non-adherence by visitors

First step:

- Verbal review of the information presented during initial and consequent education sessions, including demonstration as necessary, to facilitate understanding of requirements and adherence to the home's policy
- Provide the visitor with a copy of the home's visitor policy for an individual review
- Inform the visitor that if non-adherence continues, the visits could be temporarily prohibited

Second step:

- If non-adherence continues, visits will be ended temporarily; a reasonable length of prohibition will be provided

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- The visitor has to agree to comply with this policy and review specific Public Health Ontario resources as applicable before returning home.

APPLICATION OF POLICY

All visitors to the home are required to follow public health measures such as passive screening, hand hygiene, and PPEs required by the individual case for the duration of their visit.

Please review the following videos in preparation for your visit:

- How to handwash video: <https://www.publichealthontario.ca/en/videos/ipac-handwash>
- How to put on PPE video: <https://www.publichealthontario.ca/en/videos/ipac-fullppe-on>
- How to remove PPE video: <https://www.publichealthontario.ca/en/videos/ipac-fullppe-off>