



September 18, 2020

Hello Saint Vincent's Community.

The announcement by the government to allow Designated Caregivers back into facilities was exciting. We all recognize the important role caregivers have in supporting emotional health and well-being. After reviewing the Public Health directives, we are now ready to start the reintroduction of this group.

As directed by Public Health, a Designated Caregiver includes a family member or support person who, prior to the pandemic, had a clearly established pattern of involvement in the facility in performing caregiving tasks such as personal care, meal-time help, mobility or communication assistance, and emotional support.

The resident and/or substitute decision maker must review the criteria and if applicable, identify up to two individuals to serve as designated caregivers. Caregivers will be scheduled for an education session prior to the first visit. This will provide an opportunity to ensure the public health and facility protocols are understood such as:

- Wearing a mask, properly, for the entire visit.
- Maintaining physical distant from all residents, staff and visitors except when providing personal care.
- Remaining in the resident's room, limiting movement throughout the facility as much as possible.

Beginning Monday, September 21st, please contact Kathy at 902-429-0550 extension 113 to provide the name(s) of the Caregivers and to arrange the education session and first visit. Visiting times for Caregivers will be scheduled Monday to Friday with a start time between 10:30 am and 11:30 am and may last for up to three hours. Once we have held the first visits, we will collect feedback and may be able to look at options for other days and times.