

Nathaniel Witherell Update

Week of December 21, 2020

Dear Friends and Families,

Greetings from Nathaniel Witherell. Please read on for the latest news about our TNW family.

We are a long way from the dark days of Spring. We look forward with hope and optimism, to a new year with new beginnings in 2021. Our TNW Team is working with state and federal healthcare officials to roll out the vaccine to residents and staff in the safest and most effective way possible. We will keep you posted on our progress. Our TNW Team wishes you, your family and friends a very happy holiday season and a happy, health, peaceful and prosperous New Year!

Note: The Family Email Blast will be on hiatus until January 15, 2021.

COVID-19 Vaccine Clinic Recap

TNW will conduct four COVID-19 vaccination clinics for residents and staff.

The scheduled dates are as follows:

Saturday, December 26, 2020 10AM-4PM - first vaccination dose

Monday, January 04, 2021 10AM-4PM - first vaccination dose

Saturday, January 16, 2021 10AM-4PM - second vaccination dose for those individuals who received the first vaccination dose on 12/26/2020

Monday, January 25, 2021 10AM-4PM second vaccination dose for those individuals who received the first vaccination dose on 01/04/2021

The second vaccination dose is given 21 days after the first dose. These dates are scheduled by Omnicare/CVS and cannot be cancelled or rescheduled per the CT DPH.

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1. TNW staff has been reaching out to residents and their families to let them know about our scheduled vaccination clinic dates and to have them complete their

vaccine consent forms. **Vaccinations will not be given without documented consent.** The official consent form is the preferred method of providing consent, but verbal consent is acceptable, if it is documented and signed by a designated staff member. If you are consenting on a resident's behalf, you can drop off your consent forms in the CONSENT FORM box located at the package and clothing drop-off area under the breezeway by the Friendship Garden (Ambulance bay by the black gate).

2. Prior to the scheduled clinic date, facilities will submit a form called the Multiple Patient Upload spreadsheet into the Vaccine Clinic Scheduler to register residents and employees to receive the vaccine.
3. One week prior to the clinic date, the facility will receive a reminder phone call from the CVS Pharmacy team to confirm the anticipated number of participants and review any final questions/details.
4. Prior to the clinic, the facility will provide each participant with an appointment slot with instructions to go to the clinic site at that time. For patients in Skilled Nursing Facilities, patients should be grouped by location for vaccination in their room.
5. **For Skilled Nursing Facilities only:** A "Facility Colleague" will be available to go room to room with each CVS "Immunizer" during the entire clinic. TNW will provide a rolling cart to carry vaccine and supplies from room to room during vaccinations.
6. The day of the scheduled clinic event, the CVS Pharmacy team lead is expected to arrive roughly one hour early, to prepare the clinic area for staff vaccinations.
7. CVS Pharmacy team will bring all supplies required to conduct the clinic, including the vaccines, supplies, PPE, and cleaning materials.
8. TNW will provide the completed consent forms, insurance information and the appointment schedule to the CVS Pharmacy team member, in the order in which the vaccinations will be given.
9. The CVS Pharmacy team member will review a series of screening questions with each participant, prior to administration of the vaccine.
10. Vaccines will be administered to residents in the order of the appointments scheduled. After administration, one copy of the completed consent form will be provided to the resident or their designee and one copy will be provided to the facility for documentation.
11. First-dose participants will receive their second dose at the pre-selected and scheduled third clinic date.

Please check the Nathaniel Witherell website for updates on COVID-19 numbers.

Therapeutic Recreation

This week's activities included holiday trivia and games, Christmas bingo, carol singing, baking shortbread, and a collaboration between Recreation and Chaplaincy for a reading of the Christmas Story. Our traveling musicians, Mike and Vin, are making sure

everyone hears their favorite holiday song. The holiday spirit is alive and well at NW as residents continue to receive an outpouring of holiday cards and gifts from the Greenwich community. Merry Christmas from the Recreation Team!

The calendar of events may be found here:

<https://www.thenathanielwitherell.org/calendar/>

For more detail on what your loved ones are participating in, please feel free to inquire during care plan meetings.

Chaplaincy

The holidays are in full swing at Witherell keeping Greenwich Chaplaincy, Volunteer Services and the Recreation staff busy in a variety of ways. During Chanukah chaplains distributed cards and picture frames to Jewish residents and patients made by the children of Greenwich Reform Synagogue and Jewish Family Services. This past Sunday families from St. Michael's parish came and sang carols in the courtyard for the enjoyment of residents and staff. A holiday card drive initiated by Family Council member Tom McGuire, and facilitated by Greenwich Chaplaincy and the volunteer dept., has resulted in TNW receiving over 700 holiday cards from the local community, which have been distributed to residents.

This week chaplaincy is also making a gift to residents of small Christmas figurines of the "holy family", which have been blessed by a local Catholic priest. Lastly, two hallway programs for long-term residents-- a video of a Christmas pageant, and a program of Christmas story readings and music provided by Recreation -- will take place in the days leading up to Christmas.

Winter Visits

TNW now has 4 Outdoor Visit Pods located by the Tower in the parking lot. The Pods are another option TNW is providing our residents and visitors to meet in a safe and comfortable space. 2 of our Visit Pods will be ready for visits next week. Each of the four pods has four windows that open and close, their own heating and air conditioning systems, lighting and electrical outlets that are independent of one another. TNW presented its proposed plan to use the Pods as an alternative means of outdoor visitation to the CTDPH, which conducted a health and safety review and approved the plan. Between visits, the windows will be opened, and the table, chairs and hard surfaces of each Pod will be cleaned and disinfected per standard, approved protocols. Residents and visitors are escorted to the Pod for their scheduled visit by a staff member. Visits started in two of the pods on Wednesday and the feedback from visitors has been positive.

IN OTHER NEWS

Family Council

The Family Council is preparing a holiday gift for each of our TNW residents.

Nathaniel Witherell has a Family Council whose mission is to support Resident Life and connect with other family members. This mission is especially important during the pandemic. In the spirit of the fast approaching holiday season, the Council is currently working to create expressions of cheer to brighten Resident Life and would love to have the involvement of all family members! To become a member of the Family Council, please email Jenny Larkin at jennylarkin001@gmail.com

Package Drop Offs

Please be advised that anyone dropping off items at TNW must adhere to the following protocols:

1. Items brought to the main entrance door or any other undesignated drop off area, will not be accepted.
2. You can have prewrapped items from companies (e.g. Amazon, Harry & David, Makenzie, etc.), shipped directly to TNW.
3. The designated drop off area is the breezeway by the Friendship Garden (Ambulance bay by the black gate). Items must be dropped off at this location. Acceptable items include clothing and flowers in a vase or container. Bouquets without containers will not be accepted.
4. The following items will not be accepted at any area of the facility:
 - a. ***Food***
 - b. ***Beverages***
 - c. ***Candy***
 - d. ***Baked goods***

These items will be discarded.

5. Documents for review and/or signature, must be mailed to the specific department for which they are intended.
6. New admissions' clothing may be brought to their room to be labeled and then laundered. Any other new admission items must be delivered to the breezeway

by the Friendship Garden (Ambulance bay by the black gate) to be quarantined, inspected and disinfected.

That is the news from Nathaniel Witherell for this week.

Stay healthy and be well,

John

John Mastronardi
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Thank you to the following Team & Family Council members who contributed to our weekly update:

*Nadia Benson, Deputy & Director of Nursing
Chris Ann Bennett, Infection Preventionist
Carissa Ronish, Therapeutic Recreation Administrator
Mary Tate, Volunteer Coordinator
Tony Correale, TNW Chaplaincy
Larry Vanterpool, Director of Facilities
Jenny Larkin, Family Council*