Southeast Georgia Health System Senior Care Centers Implement Visitor Restrictions

BRUNSWICK, Georgia: March 12, 2020 – In an effort to protect the health and safety of residents from the spread of infectious diseases, Southeast Georgia Health System has implemented visitor restrictions at their Senior Care Centers in Brunswick and St. Marys, Georgia. Although these restrictions prevent family and friends from physically visiting their loved ones, protecting our residents’ health and safety is our top priority. Immediate family will not be restricted from visiting loved ones who are critically ill or in other special circumstances such as a change of condition. The visitation policy will be continually reassessed as new information and guidance is considered.

“We are committed to doing everything we can to protect our residents,” says Rhondia Grant, LNHA, administrator, Senior Care Center-St. Marys. “We will assist residents in using alternative means of communication to talk with loved ones and remain in contact during this time.”

In addition to restricting visitors, team members and other health care workers entering the facility are required to go through a health screening prior to entering the building. “Although there is much that is still unknown about coronavirus, early data shows that the aged population and individuals with chronic illnesses are most at risk for severe infection. Most of the residents at our Senior Care Centers fall into one or both of those categories,” says Scott Clay, M.D., medical director, Senior Care Centers. “In compliance with expert recommendations, our Senior Care Centers are taking action to limit individuals from entering our facilities, even those who appear healthy, and to ensure ill team members remain at home.”

“We will continue to monitor and follow information guidelines for nursing homes put forth by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, taking necessary precautions, preventative measures and the best care of your loved ones as is possible,” says Jo Lucke, CNHA, FACHCA, administrator, Senior Care Center-Brunswick.

The latest guidance on COVID-19 is available through the Georgia Department of Public Health at its toll-free number, 1-866-PUB-HLTH (1-866-782-4584), or dph.georgia.gov/novelcoronavirus, or through the Center for Disease Control website at cdc.gov. For further information regarding Southeast Georgia Health System’s COVID-19 preparedness and local information, please visit sghs.org.

ABOUT SOUTHEAST GEORGIA HEALTH SYSTEM
Southeast Georgia Health System is a not-for-profit health system comprised of two acute care hospitals, two long term care facilities, three immediate care centers, five family medicine centers and numerous employed physician practices. The Health System has multiple outpatient specialty care centers, including the only CyberKnife® M6 Program in Georgia, and a Cancer Care Center accredited by the American College of Surgeons Commission on Cancer. The Health System is part of Coastal Community Health, a regional affiliation between Baptist Health and Southeast Georgia Health System forming a highly integrated hospital network focused on significant initiatives designed to enhance the quality and value of care provided to our contiguous communities. For more information, visit sghs.org.