



**PUBLIC HEALTH ADVISORY**

April 6, 2020

**Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) Community Guidance:  
Care for Patients at Residential Care Facilities for the Elderly (RCFE)**

On March 12<sup>th</sup> Marin County Public Health issued a [Public Health Advisory](#), which provided new standards for protecting RCFE residents. On March 24<sup>th</sup> Marin County Public Health issued two Public Health Advisories updating standards of care for [providers](#) and [facilities](#). These advisories provide specific guidance and direction to protect RCFE residents.

We are particularly concerned about how a case of COVID-19 in a congregate setting such as yours might lead to the rapid spread of disease. We realize that keeping up to speed with the county recommendations, while minimizing the spread of the pandemic, can be challenging to implement. For this reason, Marin County Public Health is partnering with our community hospitals, including Kaiser Permanente (KP) San Rafael Medical Center and MarinHealth Medical Center (MHMC) to support RCFE and prevent outbreaks. We have endorsed and established a unified, coordinated, multi-agency approach to provide medical expertise to facilities (Mobile Assessment and Triage Teams). These teams will support the implementation of county recommendations as informed by Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) [Preparing for COVID-19: Long-term Care Facilities, Nursing Homes](#), which includes the [COVID-19 Preparedness Checklist for Nursing Homes and other Long-Term Care Settings](#)

All RCFEs are responsible for maintaining current information and recommendations disseminated by the county and [California Department of Social Services \(CDSS\)](#). CDSS has also developed a [Facility Self-Assessment Checklist](#). Executing the checklist will reduce the risk of COVID-19 entering congregate settings but not eliminate the risk completely. Please note that COVID-19 is a reportable illness, meaning that all COVID-19 must be reported to the Marin County Public Health.

Thank you for your support and partnership.

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