Dear [Resident/Family Member]:

**CORONAVIRUS OUTDOOR VISITING – SAMPLE RESIDENT/LETTER**

***Effective July 20, 2020***

We have good news to share about outdoor visiting options starting [date]. Thanks to you, our staff, and community, we are managing the risks of COVID-19 well at [organization name.]

As a result, the Ohio Department of Health has [**provided guidance**](https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/static/publicorders/Fourth-Amended-Directors-Order-Nursing-Homes.pdf) on visiting in our outside areas. Visitation of residents inside our building is still prohibited per ODH. There is an exception for compassionate care situations, such as end of life. These exceptions are made case by case. More details on family visitation for end-of-life situations can be found [**here**.](https://associationdatabase.com/aws/LAO/asset_manager/get_file/473069?ver=1)

Here are the details of our Outdoor Visiting program:

* [describe scheduling or frequency]
* [describe location and safety precautions that you’ve built into the area]
* [describe screening, hand hygiene, and PPE requirements]
* To continue protecting everyone from potential virus transmission, we ask that you avoid hugs, handshakes and other physical contact.
* During your first outdoor visit, we’ll ask you to read a description of the visit requirements, agree to follow those instructions, and accept that there is some COVID-19 risk even in these protected situations. See our [**Outdoor Visitation Restrictions and Instructions form**](http://www.leadingageohio.org/aws/LAO/asset_manager/get_file/471402)**.**
* For more specifics on what to expect, see the [**Frequently Asked Questions**](http://associationdatabase.com/aws/LAO/asset_manager/get_file/473079)document.

I understand how difficult this has been for you and your family. We were all asked to prioritize safety during these past few months and the lack of social contact with families was painful.

We deeply appreciate the sacrifices you made to limit the impact of COVID-19 on our community. While the virus will be with us for many more months, we all now know more about how take precautions like wearing masks, making sure our hands are clean, and deep cleaning high-touch surfaces to prevent COVID-19 from spreading.

Our entire team looks forward to seeing you outside and enjoying our well-earned Ohio summer days. I will continue to keep you up to date on how our COVID-19 protection efforts are going. We are following state and federal guidelines in planning to re-open inside visiting as quickly as we can. For now, we will do everything we can to make your outdoor visits as comfortable as possible.

Thank you again for being partners with us in fighting the COVID-19 virus. Your messages of support, prayers, and patience will not be forgotten. There may be more challenges ahead, and we may need to make adjustments as we roll-out our new Outdoor Visiting program. If you have ideas to make it better, please do not hesitate to reach out to me at [insert phone and email].

Sincerely,