Family & Visitor Information

Patients’ families, friends and loved ones are encouraged to visit and maintain relationships with patients while they are hospitalized. Most of the time, these relationships assist in their recovery. Our goal is to provide patients with the best care in a safe, empathic and compassionate environment. The following information will ensure that both visitors and patients have a safe and enjoyable visit while at State Hospital South.

**Visiting Hours**

- **Monday-Friday**: 8:00 am - 9:00 pm
- **Weekends**: 10:00 am – 6:00 pm
- **Holidays**: 10:00 am – 6:00 pm

Please coordinate visits with the clinician working with the person you are visiting.

The family visitation room is limited to six people and patient unit visit is limited to three. During very busy times (weekends and holidays) visiting times may be limited due to the high volume of visitors.

Identification is required to check in, if you do not have picture identification, we will need to take your picture and record an address and phone number.

**Safety**

Help us keep everyone safe by following these guidelines:

- All visitors are subject to the rules and regulations of State Hospital South, including the established search requirements and procedures for contraband detection. Staff will follow established protocols for contraband searches.

- Unit staff may end a visit due to inappropriate behavior of the patient or visitor when the visit is no longer in the best interest of on-going treatment or as otherwise necessary to maintain safety in the hospital.
• Visitors are not allowed to bring certain items into the visitation area. Prohibited items include, but are not limited to, wallets, purses, briefcases, keys, fingernail clippers, cell phones, cameras, games, recording devices, tobacco, lighters/matches, medications, electronic devices, etc. You can review the entire list by clicking this link: State Hospital South Contraband or by contacting us (208.782.1200) in advance to discuss items prior to bringing it to our facility.

• Exceptions may be granted by the State Hospital Administrator or designee. Anyone failing to adhere to these guidelines by continuing to possess any of the items listed above as well as on the Contraband Awareness and Confidentially Statement will be asked to leave hospital grounds immediately. Violation of these guidelines may result in visitation restriction and/or legal prosecution.

• We have lockers available for visitors to secure items if needed or items can be returned to your vehicle for safe keeping before being allowed entry into the designated visitation area.

**Food and Beverages**

Non-commercially prepared food that is not sealed is **not** allowed to be brought into the hospital. However, you are free to order take out to be delivered once you have been admitted to the visitor room. Beverages must be in a plastic bottle and sealed. If you have additional questions about what food you can bring please call us at 208.785.1200. Soda and vending machines are also accessible by visitors.

Visitors must take all leftover food with them when they leave, and patients cannot take food back to their unit.

**Children**

If you are bringing children to visit, you will need to contact clinician working with your family member to reserve the family visiting room in advance. Children under 14 are not allowed on the patient units for their own safety.

**Pets**

We know people love their pets. Visits with pets will take place in designated areas to minimize risk of others experiencing allergic reactions. **Arrangements must be made in advance** with the treating clinician.

If you still have questions, don’t hesitate to call us at 208.785.1200 between 8:00 am and 9:00 pm; outside of those times you can call 208.705.4920.