

Samaritan Place

POLICY: Animal Visitors
Number: 50-20-001
Reference: MRFI

Date Revised: June 15, 2021
Date Reaffirmed: March, 2015
Date Approved: January 26, 2012
Lead: Life Enhancement Director

Policy:

Family members and other visitors may bring animals into the community/neighborhood as long as the animals are well behaved and do not pose a health or safety risk to residents and companions, employees or other visitors.

Procedure:

1. Any animal must have up to date vaccinations including rabies and be healthy to visit a resident at Samaritan Place.
2. All animals that visit the facility will be friendly, non-aggressive, well behaved and under the control of the owner. All animals must be leashed when traveling from reception to resident suite. If the animal poses any risk to residents or companions, employees or visitors; the owner will be asked to remove the animal from the community.
3. Snakes, lizards and turtles will not be allowed to enter the community as they can serve as a reservoir for Salmonella bacteria, which is easily transmitted, to residents and employees.
4. Animals may visit in individual resident's rooms as long as the resident has given permission.
5. Animals will not be allowed in the kitchen area or in the dining area when food is being prepared, stored or served. The exception is well-behaved service animals.
6. Residents will wash their hands or be assisted with hand washing by a team member after handling an animal.
7. Employees will wash their hands after handling an animal, before providing care to a resident or preparing food.
8. During any infectious disease outbreak, there will be no pet visits until the outbreak is declared to be over by Public Health.
9. Every reasonable and practical effort shall be made to keep animals away from residents with allergies, phobia or dislikes. Animal interaction shall be limited to intended resident in their suite.