



**Caring for you,
wherever you
call home**

Weekly Newsletter

Press Release: LB Hospice Suspends Services

Fergus Falls, MN - *October 22, 2021* – LB Homes announces the suspension of their LB Hospice program. As a hospice organization, they have been providing care for an incredible 38 years, beginning as Lakeland Hospice and then becoming LB Hospice. During that time, they have served countless patients and their families, while partnering with healthcare and community organizations, to ensure patients have received the holistic care hospice is able to provide. The hospice team has consisted of a direct care team of a hospice medical director, nurse case managers, social workers, chaplains, bereavement specialists, home health aides, and volunteers, along with many non-direct care team members, such as intake and health information. Together they have coordinated care for patients facing serious or life-threatening illness or injury.

Like many healthcare organizations, LB Hospice has seen a decrease in available staffing. This has prompted many discussions regarding the best options for patients within LB Hospice. It was determined, that due to significant staffing difficulties, LB Hospice will need to suspend hospice services. “Our hospice team has consistently provided quality, compassionate care for patients in our community. This was a difficult decision, but ultimately, our decision is based on providing the best possible patient care,” Rachel Rollie, LB Home Care and Hospice Administrator. “We will continue to evaluate our hospice program, but as of now, we are transferring patients to other hospice organizations.”

“This was absolutely a difficult decision,” John Zwiers, CEO, LB Homes. “We are grateful for our LB Hospice team and community supporters. They have had a significant impact within our community.” LB Hospice is working to transfer current hospice patients to other area hospice programs. LB Hospice patients will continue to receive hospice care through those programs.

LB Homes will retain hospice licensure and continue to evaluate the viability of reimplementing a hospice program. LB Homes’ remaining entities will continue to operate without interruption. These include LB Broen Home, LB Woodland Lodge, LB Alcott Manor, and LB Sheridan House facilities, as well as LB Home Care.

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Testing Information

Please call Dawn Bratlien at 218.998.7313, with any questions or concerns.

LB Broen Home			
* We continue to test all staff twice weekly, regardless of vaccination status, until we are out of the outbreak. At that time, we will resume testing all unvaccinated staff twice weekly. *			
*If you are experiencing symptoms, call 218.998.7336, someone will come to your car to test you. *			
Who	COVID-19 Testing	When	Where
LB Broen Home Staff (including non-Broen staff who enter LB Broen for work)	Mandatory, regardless of vaccination status	Twice weekly 6:00 am – 9:00 am Thursday, October 28th Monday, November 1st	Light and Life Auditorium Enter through Door I
LB Broen Home Residents	Mandatory, regardless of vaccination status	Twice weekly 6:00 am – 9:00 am Thursday, October 28th Monday, November 1st	Staff will assist
LB Broen Essential Caregivers	Recommended, but not required	Twice weekly 6:00 am – 9:00 am Thursday, October 28th Monday, November 1st	Light and Life Auditorium Enter through Door I

LB Woodland Lodge			
* We continue to test all staff twice weekly, regardless of vaccination status, until we are out of the outbreak. At that time, we will resume testing all unvaccinated staff twice weekly. *			
*If you are experiencing symptoms, call 218.998.7266, someone will come to your car to test you. *			
Who	COVID-19 Testing	When	Where
LB Woodland Lodge Staff	Unvaccinated only	Twice weekly 6:45 am – 8:15 am Thursday, October 28th Monday, November 1st	Woodland Lodge Building East Lower-Level Entrance
LB Woodland Lodge Essential Caregivers	Recommended, but not required	Twice weekly 6:45 am – 8:15 am Thursday, October 28th Monday, November 1st	Woodland Lodge Building East Lower-Level Entrance

LB Alcott			
*If you are experiencing symptoms, call 218.998.7266, someone will come to your car to test you. *			
Who	COVID-19 Testing	When	Where
LB Alcott Manor Staff	Unvaccinated only	Twice weekly 6:45 am – 8:15 am Thursday, October 28th Monday, November 1st	Woodland Lodge Building East Lower-Level Entrance
LB Alcott Manor Essential Caregivers	Recommended, but not required for unvaccinated	Twice weekly 6:45 am – 8:15 am Thursday, October 28th Monday, November 1st	Woodland Lodge Building East Lower-Level Entrance

LB Home Care & LB Hospice			
*If you are experiencing symptoms, call 218.998.7266, someone will come to your car to test you. *			
Who	COVID-19 Testing	When	Where
LB Home Care Staff	Unvaccinated only	Twice weekly 6:00 am – 9:00 am Thursday, October 28th Monday, November 1st	Light and Life Auditorium Enter through Door I
LB Hospice Staff	Unvaccinated only	Twice weekly 6:00 am – 9:00 am Thursday, October 28th Monday, November 1st	Light and Life Auditorium Enter through Door I

Thank you for your continued efforts and commitment to help our residents, patients, and staff stay safe during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Please watch emails and listen to phone messages for updates regarding testing requirements.

Current Visitation Information

We continue our mitigation efforts which include screening for symptoms upon entering an LB facility, wearing of masks appropriately, frequent hand-hygiene and 6-foot distancing as appropriate. Staff and Essential Caregivers should also wear eye protection appropriately.

As a reminder, Essential Caregivers will need to screen in thoroughly, and wear a surgical face mask while being escorted to and from the resident's room. The Essential Caregiver is limited to the resident's room.

Scheduling Visitation:

Thank you for your continued support and diligence as we navigate these guidelines provided by the Minnesota Department of Health. If you would like to schedule a video visit, window visits, or outdoor visit with your loved one please contact Aaron Hanson at 218-998-7333 or Aaron.Hanson@LBHomes.org.

***Outbreak procedures are always initiated with the notice of just one COVID-19 positive staff member. ***

Facility	General Visitation Information
LB Broen Home	General Visitation – Closed – Outbreak procedures Essential Caregiver – Open, except if on Transmission Based precautions Compassionate Care visits - Open
LB Woodland Lodge	General Visitation – Open, except if on Transmission Based precautions Essential Caregiver – Open, except if on Transmission Based precautions Compassionate Care visits - Open
LB Alcott Manor	General Visitation – Open, except if on Transmission Based precautions Essential Caregiver – Open, except if on Transmission Based precautions Compassionate Care visits - Open

LB Homes Cumulative COVID-19 Operations Report

Entity	Cumulative number of staff and residents and Essential Caregivers (EC) since 5/8/2020
LB Broen Home	63 total (6 residents and 29 staff/EC in 2020) (10 residents and 18 staff/EC in 2021)
LB Alcott Manor	9 (1 resident in 2020) (8 staff/EC in 2021)
LB Woodland Lodge	9 (6 staff/EC in 2020) (4 staff/EC in 2021)

***Please note: There has been an update to the Cumulative COVID-19 Operations Report. It is now shortened to include cumulative positives per facility since 5/8/2020. Numbers were previously listed in the report as weekly results. ***

If you did not receive your vaccine and would like to, contact please contact Dawn Bratlien at 218-998-7313 or check out the resources found here:
[COVID-19 Vaccine | Otter Tail County, MN \(ottertailcountymn.us\)](https://www.ottertailcountymn.us/covid-19-vaccine).