## Eye Protection for All Staff

We appreciate all the hard work and sacrifices each of you have endured over the last few weeks of our COVID-19 response. Your work and dedication has not gone unnoticed and we are so thankful for all the staff at the Buffalo Lake Healthcare Center.

This last week we received new direction from the Minnesota Department of Health and Centers for Disease Control that states, staff who have direct contact (within 6 feet) of a resident should wear eye protection. The Buffalo Lake Healthcare Center is determined to do everything we can to prevent staff and residents from becoming sick or spreading COIVD-19 asymptomatically. Staff comfort and flexibility is also a high priority. That is why we have developed a plan to fit both agendas.

- Staff will wear eye protection when in a resident room/apartment or within 6 feet of someone not wearing a mask.
- Staff will be able to choose which form of eye protection they would prefer to use, face shields or safety glasses. Vision correction glasses do NOT count as eye protection.
- Hand hygiene should be performed before and after touching your eye protection and face mask to prevent contaminating yourself or others.

We understand this is an additional burden for staff but please know everything you are doing is working. Our goal in all of this is to keep COVID-19 away from our residents and staff for as long as we can. Thank you for all you and your family are doing in this effort.

Thank you,

**COVID-19 Incident Command Team**