



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**March 14, 2020**

## **SIH Point of Entry, Visitor Changes**

*COVID-19 prompts additional safety measures at SIH hospitals*

(CARBONDALE, IL) For the health, safety and well-being of our patients, visitors and staff, SIH has implemented changes to entry points at SIH Memorial Hospital of Carbondale, SIH Herrin Hospital and SIH St. Joseph Memorial Hospital until further notice. Entry to each hospital will be limited to the main and Emergency Department entrances. Signage is in place to direct flow into each hospital.

Upon entry, all patients and visitors will undergo a brief illness screening. Visitors will receive a badge, which will include the date of the visit and department and/or patient room location. If visitors have symptoms such as fever, cough or shortness of breath, SIH respectfully asks those individuals to refrain from coming to the hospital at this time.

Additionally, SIH will enforce a visitor restriction policy and allow two visitors per patient. Individuals under 18 years of age are not allowed to visit at this time. Exceptions to this policy will be made for end-of-life circumstances.

SIH understands this is a challenging time for our patients, families and employees. We ask for your patience and support of these temporary measures.

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For addition information, contact SIH Public Information Officer Rosslind Rice at (618) 534-2848 or [rosslind.rice@sih.net](mailto:rosslind.rice@sih.net) . .