



Department of Health

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Executive Deputy Commissioner

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Coronavirus Response Update

Dear Resident/Representative:

New guidance came out since our last letter on handling the outbreak of Coronavirus, COVID-19. In response, more changes have been put in place.

We are no longer allowed to hold communal dining or group activities. Fortunately, our dining rooms are big enough to allow us to spread residents out at least 6 feet away from each other. In some situations, we are using areas adjacent to our dining rooms in order to comply with this new rule. Activities will be done on an individual basis or in small numbers that maintain proper distance from each other.

All employees are screened and have their temperature taken before being allowed to work, and they must wear a mask at all times.

Volunteers are not allowed to come into the Home.

Non-essential personnel are not allowed in with few exceptions.

No visitors are allowed unless for medically necessary visits (such as end-of-life).

Since we can't allow visitors, we plan to offer video chatting, such as Skyping or Facetiming with your loved one. Please let us know if you would like to do this.

As a reminder regarding our letter from last week, we also have to limit furloughs, such as day trips, overnight stays and any situation where a resident leaves the facility. Furloughs are not recommended. If a resident is planning to leave the facility for any reason, we must be notified well in advance to review the purpose of the furlough. Medical appointments will also be reviewed so that only critically important appointments are being allowed. Requests will be handled on a case-by-case basis.

You will be notified as soon as these restrictions are lifted.

Thank you for your patience during this very challenging time. We know it is not easy and it feels like you are being limited, but we are doing this to protect your health and wellbeing. If you have any questions, I encourage you to speak with your nurse or social worker.

Sincerely,

Kurt Apthorpe, MBA, CNHA, LNHA
Administrator