



March 12, 2020

Hello Everyone,

Ensuring the health and well-being of our residents and employees continues to be our highest priority.

We are following all recommended guidelines from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and monitoring the CDC for news and developments related to COVID-19 (coronavirus). According to the CDC the immediate health risk from COVID-19 is low for the general public. Because our resident population is more vulnerable than the general public, however, we are intensifying our preventative measures with their well-being in mind.

In light of the continued spread of COVID-19, we have stepped up our protocols. Until further notice, we are following these guidelines:

- We are encouraging residents to stay at the building and limiting all visitations. Out of an abundance of caution, we will limiting visiting hours to 1p-4p.
- Front desk staff will be more assertive in asking all visitors to wash their hands and/or utilize available hand sanitizer whenever they enter or exit the community. We appreciate your understanding and compliance with these requests
- We strongly recommend friends/family members refrain from taking residents out of the community to visit public gathering spaces, including grocery stores, religious services, shopping malls, theaters, restaurants, etc.
- We are eliminating all excursions to public gathering spaces, including grocery stores, religious services, shopping malls, theaters, restaurants etc.
- We are postponing or canceling all community events in which we expect three or more visitors to enter the building.
- We strongly recommend that residents cancel or postpone all upcoming travel, including cruises and/or all flights.
- Current residents are being provided additional education regarding cough etiquette, handwashing, cleaning of personal items (such as cell phones), and reporting procedure if they are not feeling well.
- Nursing staff will do regular wellness checks on residents to look specifically for signs of illness including, but not limited to, fever, cough, or shortness of breath – then follow clearly outlined reporting procedures.
- Residents returning to the community following a hospital stay must present negative test results for COVID-19, or a note from their physician stating they are infection-free and do not pose a risk to others.

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- We continue to ask additional screening questions to new residents to ensure they have not been exposed to COVID-19 or visited affected areas.
- Those diagnosed with COVID-19 or those who have reason to believe that they, someone in their household or someone they have close contact with has been exposed to COVID-19 are prohibited from entering communities.
- Anyone who has traveled abroad in the last 14 days or anyone sharing a household with a person who has traveled abroad in the last 14 days are prohibited from entering communities.
- As always, hand-sanitizing products will be available throughout the community as a supplement for regular and frequent hand washing.

Additional cleaning protocols include:

- Frequently disinfecting high-touch areas like doorknobs, elevator buttons, faucets and handrails
- Increased cleaning of high-traffic common areas such as dining rooms and activity spaces
- Reinforcing hand-washing and infection control training for all employees
- Providing additional personal protective equipment and cleaning supplies

We are in regular contact with the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) and the Suffolk County Department of Health Services (SCDHS) for updated information and guidance.

If there are any questions or concerns, please contact us directly.

Be well,

Jeffrey Thompson
Executive Director

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