

MEMORANDUM

Date: March 14, 2020
To: MSAG Residents and Staff
From: Maureen Beith, CEO
Re: COVID-19 Prevention Measures

Last night, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), the arm of the Department of Health and Human Services that regulates nursing homes, issued revised guidelines for infection control and prevention of Coronavirus. These mandates impact Magnolia Grove and the Evergreen Villas. A summary includes:

- **Prohibition of all visitation** to these areas, except in the case of “compassionate care situations, such as end-of-life care”. If you would like to see the CMS memorandum in its entirety, go to <https://www.cms.gov/files/document/qso-20-14-nh-revised.pdf>
- All employees must have their temperature taken at the beginning of their shift and be assessed for respiratory symptoms, new or change in cough, and sore throat.
- Cancellation of all communal dining and all group activities

Additionally, there are also requirements for identifying staff that work at multiple facilities, revision in how we interact with vendors and receive supplies, and the use of personal protective equipment (PPE).

We understand that these mandates are unwelcome for some, but ask that you respect our requirement to comply with them. We will make alternative forms of communication/visitation (Skype, FaceTime) available starting on Monday, March 16. Please remember that the staff who have the task of enforcement are the “messenger”.

For the remainder of the campus, we continue with the following measures:

- Take-out dining only. The previous thought that dining in smaller groups, maintaining a physical distance is no longer recommended. The more you can observe a “social separateness”, the better.
- Adjustments are being made to use of the pool and various Wellness classes. Please check the Monday NOW for specifics. Until then, please use the pool one person at a time only. If you arrive and someone is already there, we ask that you return at a later time.
- Please strongly discourage visitors during this time, even if they are coming to your home only. We are trying to limit exposures on a very open campus.
- Travel is not recommended- the CDC advises us to “stay home”.
- Efforts are being made to go forward with some of the previously scheduled programming, by broadcasting on Channel 6.

Thank you again for your cooperation with these measures. Additional updates will be provided as new information becomes available.

