

COVID-19 Status Update for July 10, 2020

After the identification of our first positive case of COVID-19 in a resident during the week of June 22, we have since returned to a status of no identified positive cases in either residents or employees in any level of care.

We continue to follow the guidance of the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health, the regulatory entity most closely involved in our preventative and response practices. There are more generic guidelines from federal and state agencies that can be more lenient, but they always point to the local health departments for direction that is specific to the COVID activity in individual counties.

Now in our fifth month of “lockdown” procedures, we continue with the following practices:

- All communal dining remains on hold. Residents in Skilled Nursing, Assisted Living and Memory Care have their meals delivered, and residents in Independent Living can choose between delivery or take-out. We have prepared to begin outdoor distance-dining in several locations, but are waiting to initiate this until COVID levels in our local community recede.
- All in-person group activities continue to be cancelled, however there is robust programming and interaction through the wonders of technology.
- Our staff, and any private-duty workers or contractors on-site, continue to have their temperatures taken and logged as they arrive to work and leave. We also monitor for other COVID symptoms through a series of questions.
- We have returned to surveillance testing (from response testing) for our skilled nursing areas, which entails testing 10 residents and 25% of the employees each week. For other levels of care, we are testing in the following situations: the presence of symptoms, post-hospitalization, assumed or possible exposure, other situational indicators.
- Adequate quantities of personal protective equipment (PPE) remains a priority, and is monitored daily. We find that there tends to be fluctuating availability, depending on the item. Thus far we have been able to meet our high level of usage.
- The wearing of masks is mandated for anyone on campus.
- Our visitor restrictions have not yet been lifted, and will continue for the foreseeable future. We ask that anyone needing special consideration for an exception to this mandate, contact Administration.

The health and well-being of our residents and employees is our most important goal, and our primary focus. We are grateful for the many expressions of support for this effort, and the cooperative, sacrificial actions that contribute to “the good of the whole”!

Maureen Beith, CEO