

WEEKLY UPDATE

12/10/2020

Dear Residents and Families/Representatives,

Please accept this letter as our weekly update regarding the status of COVID-19 in our facility. Since the onset of this virus, we have had 34 residents and 31 staff members test positive for COVID-19. Fairfield has completed 21 weeks of weekly staff testing with no new cases. We have completed our 6th round resident testing in the facility and we are happy to report that no resident tested positive for COVID-19. All test results for employee's and residents for the past 21 days have been negative, and we are happy to report the Local Health Department has concluded the outbreak investigation. Fairfield will implement its indoor visitation plan starting next week. The indoor visitation guidelines are as follows:

- a) The facility may not have any new onset of COVID-19 cases in the last 14 days and cannot be conducting outbreak testing.
- b) The facility will ensure that visitors adhere to core principles to include children.
- c) The facility will limit the number of visitors per resident and the number of visitors allowed in the facility at one time based on the size of the facility.
- d) The facility will schedule visits with time limits to allow all residents to receive visitors.
- e) The facility will limit movement of visitors; to include direct routes to designated visitation area.
- f) The facility will not conduct visitation in shared rooms unless the resident cannot leave the room due to health status. In that event the facility will ensure adherence to core principles of COVID-19 infection prevention.
- g) The facility will monitor their county positivity rate as additional information to determine indoor visitation. The facilities that are in low (<5%) and medium (5%-10%) should conduct visitation according to the core principles of COVID-19 infection prevention and facility policies beyond compassionate care visits. Those facilities that are in high (>10%) should only conduct for compassionate care situations according to the core principles of COVID-19 infection prevention and facility policies.
- h) The facility may monitor other factors that increase COVID-19 risk levels to include: rates of COVID-19 like illnesses, visits to the emergency department, or positivity rate of a county adjacent to the county where the nursing home is located.

As you have probably heard, the CDC recently announced that healthcare workers and long-term care residents should be among the first group of people to receive the vaccine for COVID-19. We are optimistic this will help stop the spread of this virus in our community. Consents for the vaccines are currently available and while we do not have the exact dates that the vaccines will be administered, we will let you know as soon as that information is available. In the meantime, please continue to do your part in limiting the transmission of COVID-19 by wearing masks, washing your hands and keeping a safe distance from others.

We are also working hard to keep everyone in our community safe and we will continue to practice the enhanced safety precautions that are known to prevent the spread of COVID-19, such as only essential personnel are allowed inside the facility and we screen them for signs and symptoms of illness prior to entering. Our residents are continually monitored and staff is using PPE as recommended by the CDC. Staff is frequently reminded and encouraged to practice social distancing and to use hand sanitizer and frequently wash their hands when they are in the facility and out in the community. We ask them not to report to work if they have symptoms of illness.

Please continue to check our website for weekly updates as well as notification of new cases. As always, we will notify you if we receive confirmation of a new positive case in our facility and we will reach out to you individually if your loved one is displaying symptoms of COVID-19 or tests positive for COVID-19.

If you have any questions or concerns please contact us directly at (410) 923-6820.

Sincerely,

Charles Woodberry, MS., LNHA

Charles Woodberry
Administrator