



To: All Residents, Families and Team Members
From: Kyle Hreben, Executive Director
Date: July 1, 2020
Subject: Rockville Community Update –
Planning our Path Forward

Memorandum

As we continue to move forward with our phased re-opening planning, our team continues to work diligently to meet the requirements set forth by the state of Maryland and the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) that will allow us to relax restrictions in the Health Center. In May, CMS released preliminary guidance that directed the states to keep nursing homes under their existing restrictions until the later part of Phase 3. As we're nearing that timeline now, our Path Forward plan will provide details and guidance to our residents, team members and families on our "new normals" within our daily operations. Our primary concern and focus remains on the safety and well-being of our residents and team members.

Through the phased re-opening, there are specific protocols that will not be relaxed. We will continue to:

- Use universal precautions of masking, eye protection and appropriate hand hygiene
- Screen residents daily: temperature, pulse oxygen levels and symptoms
- Cohort confirmed or suspected cases of COVID positive residents, with designated care teams
- Screen all visitors and team members for signs and symptoms upon entry into the building

Our Path Forward Phase 1 plan will allow us to resume small group activities (in groups of 5 or fewer), communal dining in a limited manner with distancing, and limited rehab services in the therapy gym. Residents may also begin to move around in their neighborhood, wearing a mask and practicing distancing. Lastly, outdoor visits can be offered. But, before we can get to those steps, ***we must first meet the criteria for these relaxed restrictions.***

The Department of Health's re-opening criteria are many, but two key components are the ability to test our team members weekly and the need to have no onset cases in the past 14 days. We are awaiting a confirmation with the University of Maryland's lab as our testing partner, and our current COVID positive resident population should be considered recovered within the next 10 days. It's essential to understand that the Department of Health has also provided guidance that if we experience any new cases (outside of our third floor observation neighborhood) between now and re-opening or after re-opening that we may be required to remain or return to our pre-Phase 1 restrictions. Our website will continue to be the primary location for updates during for our Path Forward plan:

www.thevillageatrockville.org/pathforward

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During our recent Family Forums, Erin Wheeler, our healthcare administrator, and I shared information on our plans for phased relaxation of current restrictions in coordination with the current regulations, including how our outdoor visits will be offered. Our patios can be used for scheduled 30-minute visits, weather permitting. Visits require a team member to be present, appropriate social distancing, and masks and temperature and symptom screenings for all participants. Additionally, the resident is allowed a maximum number of two guests during the visit. As you can imagine, it will take time, collaboration and patience to work meet everyone's requests. Sign-ups will be available through SignUpGenius as soon as we receive authorization from the state to permit outdoor visitations.

As a reminder, we do have our COVID-19 dashboard that shows the impact of the virus on our community available on our website: <https://www.thevillageatrockville.org/covid-19-updates/the-village-at-rockville-covid-19-dashboard/>.

Thank you, in advance, for your patience as we once again pivot operations to meet the ever-changing needs of our current environment. We are looking forward to bringing our residents and families together again in our Path Forward plan.