



A National Lutheran Community

To: All Residents, Families and Team Members

From: Kyle Hreben, Executive Director

Date: January 7, 2021

Subject: Path Forward Update

Memorandum

As The Village Rockville begins its 131st year of providing care to older adults, we have much to celebrate in this first week of 2021! We hosted our first vaccine clinic for the COVID-19 vaccine for Health Center residents and all team members, and we opened our independent living expansion Glenmere. We believe both are significant milestones for our organization, residents and team members. On behalf of the entire community, we extend a "welcome home" to the residents who will be moving into Glenmere over the coming months. We are grateful to have you as a part of our community.

Through our partner pharmacy, CVS, we distributed the COVID-19 vaccine to 137 Health Center residents and 169 team members and care contractors on Tuesday, January 5. CVS will return on January 26 for the second dose. Additionally, Health Center residents and team members who didn't receive their first dose on January 5 will have the opportunity to receive their first dose on January 26, with their second dose on February 16. If you haven't seen our [Facebook page](#), you'll see some familiar faces getting their vaccines earlier this week. We are still working with the Maryland Department of Aging and the Department of Health to secure COVID-19 vaccines for independent living residents.

While we take a step forward in our measure of protecting ourselves, our loved ones and each other by getting the COVID-19 vaccine, there is also the reality that COVID-19 is still active and present. We do continue to test for the virus twice a week, typically on Mondays and Thursdays. Based on this week's testing result, we have eight active cases among team members, both Rockville staff and contracted service providers.

Additionally, eight asymptomatic residents from 2 Virginia, our memory care neighborhood, and one resident from 3 Virginia tested positive; all have been temporarily moved to the COVID-19 neighborhood for their isolation period. With COVID testing on Monday, and the vaccine given on Tuesday, there is no correlation between the positive tests and the administration of the vaccine.

The 2 Maryland neighborhood remains under isolation precautions until January 9, and 2 Virginia is also under isolation precautions for at least 14 days. While any neighborhood is on quarantine, all window visits are temporarily suspended, but virtual visits continue. Out of an abundance of caution, communal dining is also temporarily suspended on the 2nd and 3rd floors.

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As the results of the weekly testing have just returned today, we are performing contact tracing with the team members who tested positive. Following our standard protocol, any resident who has been in contact with a positive team member will be placed on quarantine, and the resident's primary contact will be contacted.

Although the vaccine is one step in efforts to mitigate COVID-19, we must continue to adhere to the current visitation guidelines provided by the state of Maryland and the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, which limit in-person visitations to those in need of compassionate care visits. Additionally, we will continue to follow the twice weekly testing as directed by the Department of Health. We also strongly recommend that no outside appointments be scheduled for residents in the Health Center unless they are medically necessary.

We continue to take the necessary precautions and actions to best monitor resident and team member health and well-being. Infection control protocols and personal protective equipment (PPE) usage are reviewed regularly with team members, and we do have a sufficient supply of PPE. As the number of cases rise in the greater community, our [Love Your Neighbor](#) pledge is more important now more than ever.

It's difficult to take such a strong step forward this week, yet to take a step back as well, but it does remind us that we are all in this together to keep one another safe. Together, we all must remain diligent in our personal infection control measures, practicing our three w's – wash your hands, wear your mask and watch your distance.

For reference:

Path Forward www.thevillageatrockville.org/pathforward
COVID-19 Dashboard www.thevillageatrockville.org/covid-19-dashboard
Window Visits www.signupgenius.com/go/tvarvisits
Virtual Visits www.signupgenius.com/go/tvarvirtualvisits