



A National Lutheran Community

To: All Residents, Families and Team Members

From: Kyle Hreben, Executive Director

Date: July 8, 2020

Subject: Path Forward Update

Memorandum

Earlier this week, we were able to move all residents with COVID-19 into the recovered category. With these recoveries, we have temporarily closed our COVID neighborhood on the third floor. This is a tremendous step forward for our residents and our team members – one that everyone has worked hard to accomplish.

As we shared in last week's update, we continue to make progress with Path Forward, our phased re-opening plan that follows the requirements set forth by the state of Maryland and the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). Within the community, we continue to share details and guidance with our team members on the "new normals" within our daily operations. Our primary concern and focus remains on the safety and well-being of our residents and team members.

With no active resident COVID-19 cases in our Health Center, we will begin the state-mandated weekly staff testing, a prerequisite to beginning our phased re-opening, which includes offering outdoor visitation. Outdoor visitation sign-ups will be available through the Path Forward page on our website www.thevillageatrockville.org/pathforward as soon as we receive authorization from the state to permit outdoor visitations. During this first phase, the Health Center will remain closed, and Virtual Visits will continue throughout the phased re-opening.

For outdoor visitation, our patios will be used for scheduled 30-minute visits, weather permitting. Visits require a team member to be present, appropriate social distancing, masks must be worn and temperature and symptom screenings will occur for all participants prior to the visit. 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. We know that everyone is anxious and excited to see one another; we thank you in advance for working with us.

It's essential to understand that the Department of Health has also provided guidance that if our team members or residents 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.

As we re-open, many of team members and residents have committed to the [NLCS "Love Your Neighbor" pledge](#). We ask that you, too, continue to do your part to slow the spread of COVID-19 – practicing proper hand hygiene and social distancing and properly wearing face masks in public.