



To: All Residents, Families and Team Members
From: Kyle Hreben, Executive Director
Date: December 18, 2020
Subject: Path Forward Update

Memorandum

I am sure many of you are following the news regarding the release of the COVID-19 vaccine. I personally believe that this will be our greatest step on our country's path forward to fight the coronavirus. For The Village at Rockville, it will also be our greatest step forward, as the vaccine will provide opportunities for our community to evolve into another stage of learning and living our "next new normal."

Maryland Governor Hogan has shared Maryland's vaccination plan as the vaccine begins distribution in the state. Based on this plan, health care workers, first responders and residents and staff of long-term care communities are at the top of list for the first vaccines. Through Operation Warp Speed and the CDC's Partner Pharmacy program, we are designated to work with CVS Pharmacy for distribution of the vaccine in our community. We have requested enough vaccines for all residents in all levels of care and all team members and are awaiting additional guidance from CVS.

Twice weekly testing for team members continues, while we follow Maryland Department of Health guidelines for the weekly testing of all Health Center residents. All residents have tested negative. We did have one positive test for a team member, keeping us in outbreak status.

As a reminder to independent living (IL) residents: you are encouraged to monitor yourselves for symptoms of the virus and work directly with your primary care provider for testing when symptoms are present. Additionally, we ask that you inform the myPotential Care Center if you have tested positive for the virus. Both the Care Center and myPotential at Home are resources available to you should you need additional assistance.

During this time of year, we typically have a variety of holiday concerts in Lang Hall and the Chapel with guest performers. Because of limited visitation policies, residents have enjoyed the sounds of the seasons from our very own performers. Last week, ConnectedLiving Coordinator Laurilee Clugston, a favorite among all, performed a live holiday concert, and Laurilee and Robert, our bus driver, lead residents in virtual caroling. A few team members joined in Lang Hall, but IL residents and other team members joined in live via Microsoft Teams. Residents were also able to enjoy over The Engage Channel (Comcast 975.)

This week, residents in the 2 Maryland, 2 PC and 2 Virginia neighborhoods enjoyed a pizza party for lunch, and we also hosted a successful Resident Council on Tuesday with some residents joining in person (socially distanced), while others watched through The Engage Channel.

The IL residents have also been engaging in continued learning through our interactive virtual programs like the History Series with Dr. Jenner and Joan Adams. This week, ConnectedLiving Coordinator Mengjiao did a special program on giant prehistoric creatures.

This week, we spread holiday cheer to 40+ volunteers who drove by our community to pick up custom gingerbread cookies and hot chocolate. Our volunteers continue to be a blessing to our community, as they continue to support us in various ways through this pandemic. We miss them dearly and cannot wait to welcome them back on campus. I also wanted to thank the Auxiliary for continuing to collaborate with us and providing gifts to our residents to celebrate the holidays.

Throughout the Advent season, Chaplain Charlene Barnes has held Advent Services each Wednesday, and a virtual Christmas Eve worship service is planned for December 24 and a New Year's Eve service is planned for December 31. Additionally, Chaplain Barnes is offering a Blue Christmas Service on December 20 through The Engage Channel. Acknowledging that sometimes the holidays can bring feelings of sadness – especially during challenging times, Chaplain Barnes created a Blue Christmas Service, which is a quiet, contemplative online event as an alternative to the more celebratory service. Blue Christmas is a way for The Village at Rockville to meet the needs of those who are sad or struggling during this time. If you are interested in watching, you can view it [here](#).

As a reminder, next **Tuesday, December 22** is the last day to submit your Spreading Holiday Cheer video messages that will be shared with your loved one on December 24. Here's a [link](#) to the specific submission instructions that have also been shared through email.

As we move into Christmas week in a few days, our team is committed to taking efforts to ensure that this Christmas season brings good food, good times with neighbors and great memories for all residents, specifically at a time where residents continue to be physically disconnected from their families. On Christmas Day, we will offer a special virtual visits schedule much like Thanksgiving Day. The link to schedule a virtual visit is below.

On behalf of our entire team at The Village at Rockville, I do wish you a blessed Christmas season this year.

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