

WEEKLY UPDATE

10/16/2020

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 zero residents and four staff members test positive for COVID-19. The four staff members that tested positive have recovered and returned to work. We do not have any new positive test results to report at this time.

As you know, we have been preparing to safely allow visitors at our facility and we are so excited to for you to see your loved ones. As we previously reported, there are many factors that determine when a facility can open up for visitors, up to and including our county's COVID-19 positivity rate, residents' health status, or if there is a COVID outbreak in the facility.

As the number of reported Covid-19 Cases grows in New Mexico, restrictions have been reimplemented throughout the state. At this time, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services ("CMS"), the Centers for Disease Control ("CDC") and our state health officials are still requiring we restrict social visitation and only allow essential personnel in the facility. Please understand these restrictions are in place to reduce the risk of transmission of COVID-19 in our facility and to keep our residents safe. At this point, the New Mexico Department of Health has issued a plan for reopening outside and inside visitation but unfortunately this does not apply to our county with the positivity rate at 7%. We will notify you when this changes to begin scheduling visitation appointments.

We understand how difficult it has been to not see and visit your loved ones over the past several months; we appreciate your patience and understanding during this time. Until it is safe to allow visitors, please remember that we encourage you to stay in touch with your loved ones through video chats, emails, letters, and phone calls. Please let us know if you are having trouble connecting with your loved one and we will be more than happy to facilitate your communication.

As always, we are 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.

If you need to bring anything to your loved one, please bring it by the front office. We will quarantine it for 72 hours and then hand deliver it to your loved one. We ask that it is non-perishable, in a sealed box or bag, and labeled with your loved one's name and date of delivery.

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 (575) 623-7097.

Sincerely,



Dereje Sebssibie
Administrator