



## **WEEKLY UPDATE**

**November 20, 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 41 residents and 34 staff members test positive for COVID-19. We currently are not caring for any COVID-19 positive residents. In the midst of the statewide surge, we continue to test all employees for COVID-19 on Monday's and Thursday's. **This week, we had no one test positive.**

As you might be aware, and as we have previously communicated, CMS has distributed guidance for nursing facilities to allow visitors. While we are so excited to for you to see your loved ones and to have you back at our facility, there are many factors that determine when a facility can open up for visitors, up to and including our county COVID-19 positivity rate, residents' health status, or if there is a COVID outbreak in the facility. The current Washington County positivity rate has increased again this week and is 16.9% and, as such, we are not permitted to have indoor visitation. We will continue to test all staff twice a week until Washington County's positivity rate falls below 10%.

**Visitors who wish to have a "warmer" window visit** with their loved one can **call the front desk at 262-297-6300 to arrange a time.** Feel free to call daily to see if there are any same day unused visit slots available. These visits are held at the East and West side entrances of the building. The visitor will be (warm) inside between the entryway and the resident will be in the facility lounge with a window between the visitor and resident. Communication will be through an intercom. Parking is available by each location.

Holiday time this year will look different for all of us. Thanksgiving is next week and many of you are looking for ways to make this holiday season special for your loved one and we'd love to help you do that.

Please call the facility and speak with myself; Sandy, our Director of Nursing; or Nicole our Social Worker and let us help you find a way to make that possible. We are working very hard to explore all possible options as to how make the holidays special for all – but be reminded that we need to uphold the core principles of safety for our residents, families and staff.

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.

We continue to explore ways to help with the psycho-social needs of our residents while keeping everyone safe. As I have stated in previous letters – there are no perfect answers. There are risks and benefits, both for the

residents and staff. I'm very much interested in your thoughts and ideas? Please email me ideas at [dawn.gordon@fundlhc.com](mailto:dawn.gordon@fundlhc.com)

Please try to think of ways to continue to connect with our residents. Your cards, treats, flowers, children's drawings, videos, sharing favorite memories...all help.

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.

My hope is that all of you are staying well and helping do your part in helping STOP the SPREAD of COVID-19.

If you have any questions or concerns please contact us directly at 262-297-6300.

Sincerely,

*Dawn Gordon, NHA*

Dawn Gordon  
Administrator