



June 12, 2020

Dear Friends and Family of The Residence,

As last week's letter announced, one of our staff members tested positive for COVID. This staff person had been in the building for one day prior to the date of the test. Upon notification, the staff person was instructed to remain at home. Administration immediately began working with Department of Health (DoH) and in conjunction with the recommendations of the Center for Disease Control and Prevention began isolation and monitoring protocols, including testing residents and staff who were identified to have had direct contact with this staff person. Testing was conducted and sent to the designated lab for processing and results are still pending as of this writing.

On Wednesday, a PCH resident was diagnosed with symptoms consistent with COVID and was sent out to the hospital as symptoms dictated. Last evening, Administration was notified that the resident had tested positive for COVID and remains hospitalized at this time. Nursing and Administration will remain in contact with the hospital to monitor that resident's condition.

For months, a taskforce consisting of management from administration and nursing, along with several of our physicians, have been developing and implementing protocols to prevent spread of COVID. Upon initial notification of the positive staff, additional protocols were initiated. These include residents isolating in their apartments to help prevent contact transmission, continued wearing of masks by residents when outside of their apartments or when receiving care, restricting staff to one building location, and full use of personal protective equipment by staff including mask, gowns and face shields. Our Housekeeping staff continues with constant cleaning and disinfecting of touch points throughout all buildings. Communal activities and dining have been stopped and residents are eating meals in their room. Residents are routinely monitored for symptoms consistent with COVID.

The original testing was done in consultation with the DoH and was limited to those staff and residents who had direct contact with the staff person who tested positive. With the news of the second positive test, testing is being expanded to include all remaining residents and staff in the PCH. That testing will begin immediately, and results will be reported to residents and families. You can assist by returning the testing consent forms to Jasmine Staten. By regulation, residents who refuse testing must be treated as 'presumptive positive'.

As stated, residents have been asked to remain in their apartments and staff have been checking on residents regularly and working hard to console those who feel isolated. Families can help by encouraging residents to comply with the protocols for both their safety and the safety of those around them.

We know this is a difficult time for everyone – residents, family members and staff. Certainly, there will be more questions as new information becomes available over the next few days. Another memo will be distributed as soon as the results of testing are received.

A video conference will be scheduled for next week to share the results of the testing, review current protocols, and answer questions. Instructions for participating in that video conference will be sent out early in the week. For those who are receiving this communication in hard copy by mail, you are encouraged to sign up for our emergency contact list by providing your email address to Jack Walker at [jwalker@jhgh.org](mailto:jwalker@jhgh.org). This will allow you to receive our communications in a timelier manner.

You are also encouraged to contact either Jasmine Staten, PCH Administrator or me with questions.

Jasmine Staten, PCHA	717.441.8530	<a href="mailto:jstaten@jhgh.org">jstaten@jhgh.org</a>
Allen Geckle, CEO	717.441.8556	<a href="mailto:ageckle@jhgh.org">ageckle@jhgh.org</a>

For the most up-to-date information regarding COVID, please visit the CDC website at <http://www.cdc.gov/covid19>.

Thank you for your patience and understanding as we continue to work to keep our residents and staff safe during this pandemic. Staff have appreciated the support and encouragement shown by families and others throughout the last several months.

Sincerely,

*Allen*

Allen Geckle, CEO