



June 12, 2020

Dear Friends and Family of The Jewish Home,

As last week's letter announced, a staff member in our personal care home ("The Residence") tested positive for COVID. This individual had been in the PCH the day prior. Upon notification, Campus management conducted "contact tracing" and determined that this person had not been in the skilled nursing facility, nor had this person had contact with any residents of the SNF. No residents or staff in the skilled nursing facility have tested positive for COVID.

Yesterday, we received notification that a PCH resident has tested positive in the hospital. Upon notification of the employee positive test, Campus management immediately began working with the Department of Health (DoH) on protocols following the recommendations of the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

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 the spread of COVID. Additional steps taken since the notification of the COVID positive employee in the PCH include restricting staff movement between buildings, increased monitoring of residents for symptoms, and full use of personal protective equipment by all staff, including masks, gowns and face shields. Increased cleaning and disinfecting of touch points throughout all buildings has been a constant since the onset of the pandemic.

Recently, the Pennsylvania Secretary of Health and the Governor mandated testing for all residents and staff in long term care facilities in PA. This must be completed by July 24. The Campus has been accumulating the test kits and planning to conduct this testing in anticipation of this mandate. Consents have been sent to residents or POAs in advance of the testing. If residents refuse testing, they must be deemed "presumptive positive" and additional protocols will be mandated in the SNF. Please assist by returning those consents.

We know this is a difficult time for everyone – residents, family members and staff. Not being present to see what is being done surely contributes to anxiety. Certainly, there will be more questions as testing begins and results are received.

A video conference will be scheduled for next week to share information, including plans for 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. This will allow you to receive our communications in a timelier manner.

You are also encouraged to contact either Kristina Carlevale, Nursing Home Administrator or me with questions.

Kristina Carlevale, NHA	717.441.8504	kcarlevale@jhgh.org
Allen Geckle, CEO	717.441.8556	ageckle@jhgh.org

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