

July 8, 2020

Dear Residents, Family Members & Employees,

As the scope and severity of the COVID-19 pandemic became apparent, our unrelenting focus has been the health, safety, and welfare of our residents and employees. We quickly organized and engaged all internal resources on this mission and have consistently sought support from external resources as they have been made available to us. Our response efforts are led by the Asbury Communities COVID-19 Incident Command Center (a.k.a. Command Center), comprised of highly dedicated and experienced professionals, working in coordination with the campus clinical and administrative teams.

While the organization and the world learned the characteristics of the new disease, we also strove to develop processes aimed at identifying those residents who were appropriate to test for COVID-19, and worked tirelessly to secure tests as soon as practicable. Further, we implemented comprehensive screening procedures to identify individuals within our workforce who may carry the disease, removed them from service consistent with the guidelines, and referred them to their primary care physicians for further evaluation based on the screening criteria.

When the PA Department of Health advised testing nursing home residents and employees, they did not make testing materials available to nursing homes. We are pleased to share that together with the Command Center, we have been able to contract with an approved private lab to complete the testing. Clinical resources from Asbury Communities in conjunction with RiverWoods leadership are now completing preparations for the testing process.

**We are currently expecting RiverWoods Nursing Care Center residents and employees to be tested on Tuesday, July 14, and Wednesday, July 15<sup>th</sup>.**

Results may take up to five (5) business days, and will be communicated to the employees, residents, and/or resident representatives by a nursing employee. Any Nursing Care Center residents testing positive will be in prepared rooms that meet the specific needs of residents with COVID-19. Staff will provide individual support and services following CDC infection control protocols. Employees who test positive will follow physician notification and self-quarantine protocols established by the CDC. Our

clinical teams will also conduct internal contact tracing and monitor the progress of these employees, and follow CDC/CMS guidelines regarding the timeline for safe return to work.

Please be aware that the number of pending COVID-19 test results for health care residents and employees will fluctuate during this time period. As a reminder, all COVID-19 data is updated daily on the Asbury COVID-19 Response and Communication webpage at [Asbury.org/COVID19](https://www.asbury.org/COVID19).

Additionally, we continue to:

- Follow CDC and CMS guidance, best practices and infection control protocols and procedures
- Restrict visitation and group activities
- Offer virtual social connections for families and loved ones
- Screen residents, employees and essential visitors
- Implement evolving regulations and governmental agency expectations
- Share timely communication with residents, employees and family members

Our top priority will remain the health, safety and welfare of the residents we serve and the employees who fulfill their higher purpose by performing sacred work. We thank you for your support and understanding during these unprecedented times.

Sincerely,



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