A message from the Executive Director

September 4, 2020

Dear Residents, Family Members & Associates,

Labor Day is here, and usually our first thought as the holiday approaches is to think about a day off from work to mark the end of summer. This year we have an opportunity to think a little differently. On Monday, I'm suggesting that we all take a moment to reflect on the incredible amount of "labor" we've all put in this year, particularly since the beginning of the pandemic.

We are more than seven months into combating COVID-19, and we've seen an incredible amount of time and effort put in by the 165 associates here at Asbury Solomons to ensure our community is as safe as possible and that residents are served in unique and different ways. Many residents, family members and those from the greater community have also put in a fair share of work in recent months, whether that be making masks, volunteering in some form or fashion or by simply taking time to encourage others to follow the precautions and measures we have in place.

While Labor Day recognizes the efforts of workers, it does not necessarily mean a holiday off from work. As you know, we operate 24/7, 365 days a year. Many Solomons associates will be busy going about their sacred work this long weekend, serving residents, families, and each other. If you are one of those working on Monday -- thank you.

It is remarkable what can happen when we come together for a common cause. COVID-19 forced us to collaborate and work together – to embrace our “we’re in this together” attitude. It’s commitments like this that are at the heart of how we fulfill our mission to do all the good we can.

As our re-certification as a Great Place to Work® shows, we take pride in having the opportunity to serve you. On our recent associate survey, nearly 90% of associates said:
“My work has special meaning: this is not ‘just a job.’” It is a “labor” of love. Thank you for the opportunity to serve you. Have a wonderful holiday weekend.

**Updates and reminders**

*Please note that these updates and reminders are also included on our community operations site, Asbury.org/asbury-solomons/resources-events/family-friends:*

- **Our campus has begun to slowly ease visitation restrictions in line with public health and state and local guidelines, but our health care center remains closed to in-person visits. See visitation details in the Campus Reopening section on our Friends & Family page.**

- **Reminder About Screening & Safety Measures:** We all have a responsibility to support and protect each other. All persons entering our community will follow our screening procedures, which includes a temperature check and questionnaire. All residents, associates, and visitors are required to wear a mask on campus and to practice physical distancing.

- **Fitness Room Reopening:** We are excited to be reopening the Fitness Room. Use of the Fitness Room will be available by appointment only Monday, Wednesday, and Friday for 45-minute sessions. Appointment times are 8 a.m., 9 a.m., 10 a.m., and 11 a.m. Residents can reach out to Genna Lee to make an appointment each Friday between 8 a.m. and Noon.

- **As a reminder, all COVID-19 data is updated daily on the Asbury COVID-19 Response and Communication webpage at Asbury.org/COVID19.** You can find the daily status charts in the first blue button on the side bar.

**The value of trust**
Higher purpose, trust, and accountability are the cornerstones of the sacred work we do at Asbury. We are pleased to share this short video, which explores what trust looks like across our system and why it is so fundamental for associates, those we serve, and all of our valued stakeholders. Trust is formed when we meet the commitments we make to one another; trust creates a healthy work environment, rewarding relationships, and exceptional services and experiences. As a Great Place to Work-certified organization, Asbury is grateful to everyone who plays a role in strengthening trust across our system and for placing your trust in us. Thank you for helping us to do all the good we can!

Here’s a GEM!

All across the Asbury system, we lift up associates with GEMs, which stands for associates who Go the Extra Mile! GEMs are given for a job well done. So far this year we have had dozens and dozens of GEMs given at our community and today I want to lift up a special one given to Jennifer Sabedra, HR Generalist.
"Jennifer recently jumped in to conduct training in UltiPro Core to the new Associate HR Director in Maryville, since the person who would ordinarily cover this material is currently deeply involved in the UltiPro to Kronos transition project. As we thought about who could step in, Jennifer’s name quickly floated to the top as an HR associate with the accuracy and knowledge to accomplish the task. Thank you, Jennifer, for your willingness to step in and assist! Your HR colleagues thank you for helping onboard one of our own, and for the flexibility you showed in making yourself available to assist. It is greatly appreciated!"

- Instructional Designer, Helene Perdue

Sharing a note of appreciation we received

Nearly 225 messages of appreciation have poured into Asbury system in the past few months. Today, I want to lift up a special one from two residents:

"We really appreciate that Heather Mattingly calls every week. Her sweet voice speaks with her sweet smile and the true care she feels. She makes us feel like we are not just one couple out of the whole community that she calls. Like she appreciates the opportunity to check up on us. Thank you, sweet lady."

If you’d like to share a note of thanks, please click here to launch a form where you can type in your note of appreciation. We will take your submissions and find creative ways to share with associates. Thank you!

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Thank you to all visitors for so carefully following all elements of our visitation policy. We hope to see you soon. We are all in this together. Thank you for your continued understanding and cooperation. We are #AsburyStrong!

Sincerely,