



This message is going to associates, and to residents and family members on our community distribution list.

November 25, 2020

Dear Residents, Family Members and Associates,

In most years, Thanksgiving marks an opportunity for all of us to gather with family and friends, while sharing food, stories and maybe playing a little backyard football. This year, the holiday will look different, but that doesn't mean it has to feel different.

In a year in which everything has been upended, we have all gotten creative to find new routines, become more comfortable with technology, and bond over our collective effort to address the pandemic. While not always obvious, there are positives that have come about over the past nine months. This Thanksgiving I hope you can take a minute to reflect and be thankful for what we do have, what we have learned and how we're stronger as a community.

Here's a quote about giving thanks from author Melody Beattie, and I think it's especially appropriate for this year:

"Gratitude turns what we have into enough, and more. It turns denial into acceptance, chaos into order, confusion into clarity...it makes sense of our past, brings peace for today, and creates a vision for tomorrow."

As you create a new experience for this Thanksgiving, I hope you can find joy in being grateful for what we do have, what we've overcome, and what lies ahead.

As I spend a moment reflecting during the holiday, at the top of my list will be how grateful I am for your partnership during this trying year. Thank you.

Happy Thanksgiving.

Sincerely,

Robin Stern
VP of Operations



Asbury Communities

rstern@asbury.org

www.Asbury.org



Community Visitation & Operations Website

As you are likely aware, COVID-19 cases continue to rise around us and all across the country. As many experts have said, we are in the midst of a new surge of the pandemic, and we must respond accordingly.

Rising numbers bring, as we should expect, additional guidance around combating the pandemic. Therefore, we must remain fluid in our response to do all we can to protect those who live and work here. Our journey through this unprecedented challenge is continually evolving. The Asbury System Operations Team continues to work collaboratively with our community leadership team, including our highly experienced clinicians from acute, post-acute, and senior living backgrounds, and operational experts.

While we will continue to communicate timely and important changes to you via email, I want to remind you that our website remains the go-to source for our community operations, including visitation rules, who to contact, and more. [Please visit our community page here.](#)

Updates and Reminders

Please note that these updates and reminders are also included on our community operations site, [Asbury.org/asbury-place-maryville/resources-events/family-friends](https://www.asbury.org/asbury-place-maryville/resources-events/family-friends):

- **On Friday, we announced that we have completed the search for the Vice President of Tennessee Operations.** This visionary and accomplished leader will have oversight over both the Maryville and Kingsport campuses. Melissa Fury has accepted our offer for this position, and she will assume this leadership role on December 14, 2020. You can [read the original announcement here](#). Melissa will reside in the Knoxville-Maryville area. We will be hiring a leader for Kingsport as well. Recruitment is already underway for this role, and as part of the organizational structure, this new leader will report to Melissa.
- **Our campus visitation is being guided by public health and state and local guidelines.** These include Governor Lee's thresholds for visitation to senior communities, which are set at no more than 10 new cases per 100,000 people in the county. See [Tennessee's Epicurves page](#) for current county information. More details can be found in the Campus Reopening section on our [Friends & Family page](#).
- **Testing is an important component of our COVID-19 prevention strategy.** We are pleased to share some outstanding results for Asbury Place Maryville and the Asbury system. As of November 1, Asbury has conducted just over 22,000 COVID-19 tests at our communities with a

positivity rate of just .5 percent. This compares to a national positivity rate of 7 percent. At Asbury Place Maryville, we have conducted 5,829 tests with a positivity rate of just .7 percent. We continue to hold routine and frequent testing in accordance with local and state requirements.

- **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).** You can find the daily status charts in the first blue button on the side bar.

All Smiles at Asbury Place Maryville

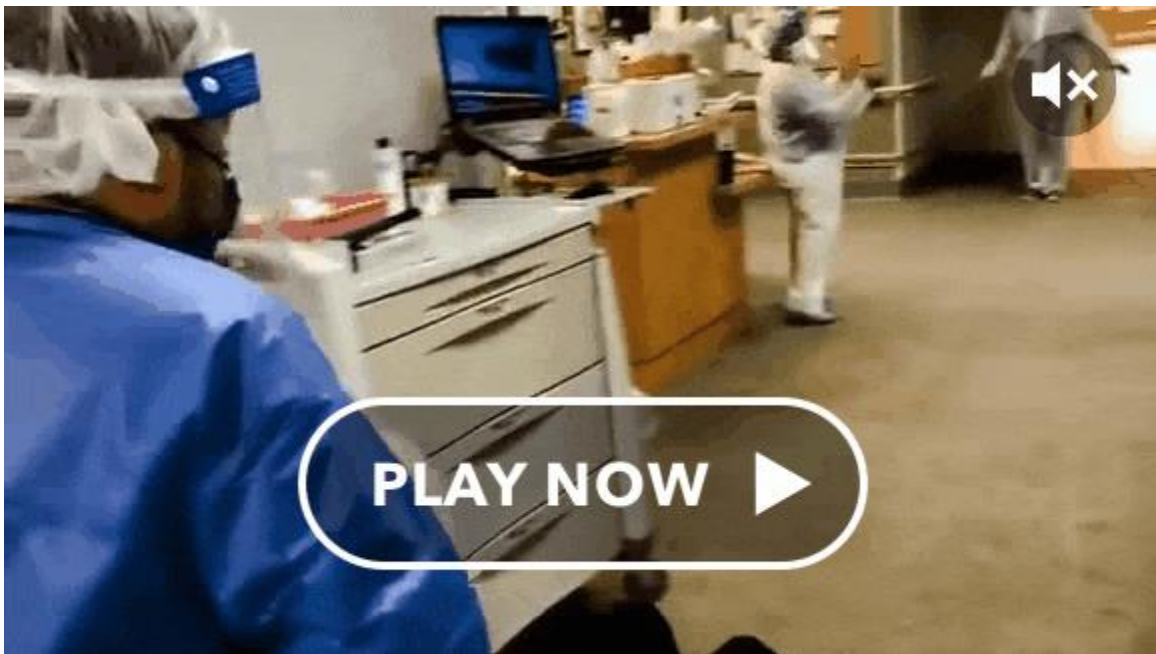
Royalty-free audio courtesy of Bensound.com

Sometimes, you just need to smile! Check out this Smile Project Music Video! Thanks to **Rene Sharp**, NHA, who came up with the idea to decorate masks for the video, and Chaplain **Bruce Farrant** and Wellness Director **Erin Butler** for shooting the video and taking pictures of the decorated masks. Watch associates and residents bust a move while showing off their beautiful smiles -- even while sporting a mask!

LeadingAge Names Recipients of its Annual Award of Honor

Every year, LeadingAge, a national organization of more than 5,000 aging-focused non-profit organizations, bestows the Award of Honor to one member who has provided nationally significant, transformative leadership in aging services. This year, the organization is not naming one award winner. Rather, LeadingAge has named all LeadingAge members, which includes Asbury associates, as recipients of this year's Award of Honor. In making the announcement, LeadingAge said: *"This year, in the face of great adversity and overwhelming tragedy, you have all risen to the occasion and demonstrated remarkable leadership and unbelievable courage in what will likely be remembered as the hardest year of your life."*

Thank you to Asbury associates for their commitment to our mission to do "all the good we can" for those we serve! Please enjoy this video produced by LeadingAge.



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 from associate-to-associate. So far this year we have had dozens and dozens of GEMs given at our community and today we want to lift up a special one for **Rachel Hopkins, Residential Living Coordinator:**

"Rachel has been an incredible addition (as she works with) residents here at Asbury Maryville. She knows how to ... solve problems quickly, with respect, tact, and efficiency. She has a ready smile, a great laugh, and is always welcoming regardless of how busy she is. We are so lucky to have her. She gives us confidence that any problem can be solved." -- Julie Tallman

If you'd like to submit a GEM for an associate, please click [here](#) to do so!