



A Message from the Executive Director

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.

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-solomons/resources-events/family-friends](https://www.asbury.org/asbury-solomons/resources-events/family-friends):

- **Campus Visitation Update:** As with the evolving guidance around combating the pandemic, so, too, must be our response to do all we can to protect those who live and work here. Earlier this week, I shared an update and reminder regarding visitation for residents who live in the Assisted Living and Health Care neighborhoods. [Please click here to view the original message](#). Additionally, I sent an update after Maryland Gov. Larry Hogan revised the state's travel guidance on Nov. 13. [Please click here to view the original message](#).
- **Testing is an important component of our COVID-19 prevention strategy.** We are pleased to share some outstanding results for Asbury Solomons 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 Solomons, we have conducted 1,975 tests with a positivity rate of just .2 percent.
- **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.

Asbury Solomons Featured in U.S. News & World Report's Best Nursing Homes Ratings



Asbury Solomons was recognized recently in the U.S News & World Report's 2020-2021 Best Nursing Homes ratings, which evaluates more than 15,000 nursing homes and narrows it to the best of the best, earning a high-performing rating in long-term care.

“I think we have a lot of stability,” Solomons Executive Director **Kelly Friedman** said. “We have folks that have worked here for a long time and they know each other and their coworkers and their neighbors and their community members. I think they value their job. I think they're committed. I think this just seems a lot like family here.”

Asbury Solomons Director of Nursing **DeeDee Williams** added that the rating is a result of teamwork between different departments at the community.

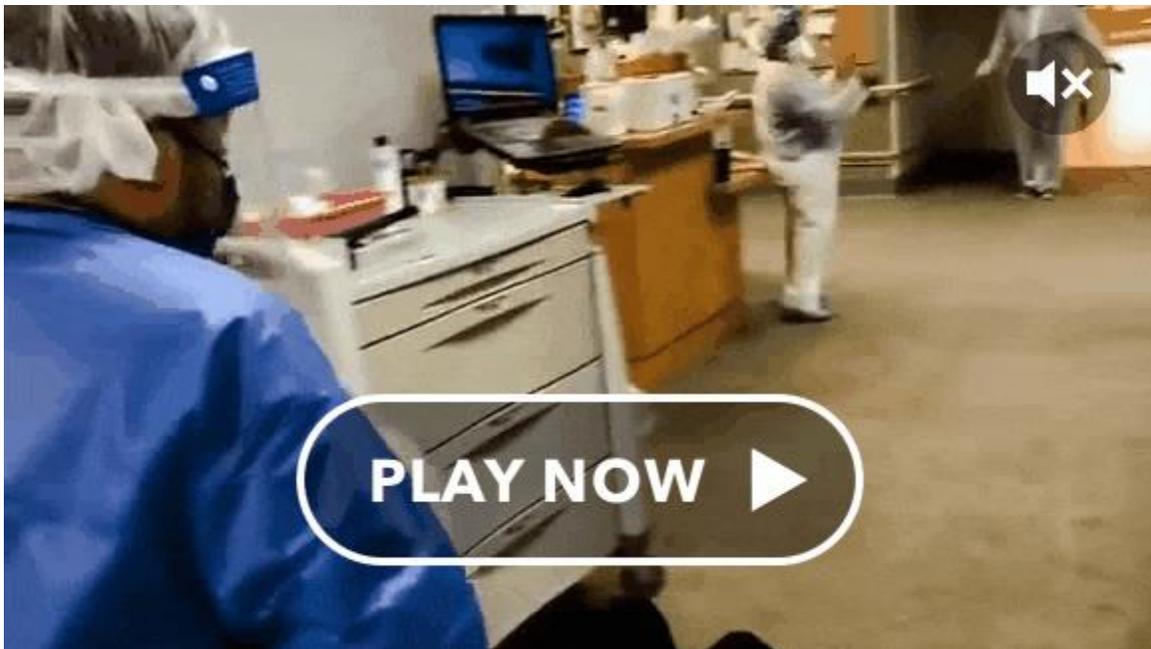
“Establishing and being able to maintain high quality standards of care and meeting the [Quality Metrics] from a state regulation takes an entire team,” DeeDee said. “It's not something that one person can do alone. It definitely is a team effort from nursing to rehab, to wellness, to housekeeping, to dining services.”

[Click here to read more.](#)

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.



Toys for Tots Donations Accepted Until Dec. 9



Asbury Solomons is participating in the Marine Corps Reserve's Toys for Tots program this holiday season. The program's mission is to collect toys that will be distributed as gifts to less fortunate children in Calvert County. To contribute, please place new, unwrapped toys in the marked box located by the reception desk in our Community Center from now until Wednesday, December 9.

Thank you for so carefully following all elements of our community health and safety measures. We are all in this together. Thank you for your continued understanding and cooperation. We are #AsburyStrong!

Sincerely,

Kelly Smith Friedman, LNHA
Executive Director



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