



MEMORANDUM

DATE: APRIL 21st, 2020

TO: ALL RESIDENTS, FAMILIES & STAFF

FROM: VICKY MORABITO

RE: CAMPUS UPDATE/NYSDOH APR 19th MANDATE

Hello everyone,

I'd like to take a moment to provide you with pertinent updates regarding the Elizabeth Church Campus and communications as the COVID-19 pandemic continues. Early on in the pandemic, we provided and continue to provide you with communications related to COVID-19.

Announcements regarding the virus and early precautionary and preventative actions taken by UMH was communicated (e.g. implementation of visitor restrictions, precautionary infection control and prevention measures set forth by the CDC, CMS, and local and state DOH). As prior communications had outlined, we responded very quickly to the pandemic implementing all guidance to prevent the spread to our campus as set forth by our governing authorities.

We understand it is very difficult not being able to visit your family members in person. Our campus liaisons and activities staff continue to devote their time to keep you informed of your loved ones' status, facilitate FaceTime calls, as well as provide you with any updates. I wanted to take this opportunity to inform you of the most recent mandates from the NYS Department of Health regarding family communications during this pandemic. The following is an excerpt from the latest mandate set forth April 19th:

"Executive Order 202.18 provides that any skilled nursing facility, nursing home, or adult care facility licensed and regulated by the Commissioner of Health shall notify family members or next of kin for all residents if any resident tests positive for COVID-19, or if any resident suffers a COVID-19 related death, within 24 hours of such positive test result or death. Financial penalties may be assessed for violations, pursuant to Executive Order 202.19."

Additionally, new guidance from CMS requires a weekly update at a minimum for all nursing centers.

To date, I am pleased to report that we continue to remain COVID-19 FREE at Elizabeth Church Campus and continue to follow all guidance to prevent it from spreading to our campus. We have been getting positive feedback from our residents and families regarding our current level of communication and the care we are providing. As mentioned above, phone calls, letters and calls to and from our liaisons have occurred and continue. We also continue to use our website to post pertinent announcements and updates.

In accordance with the above referenced new guidance, we will be reaching out to you in the event of any change at all and will notify you in the unfortunate event we experience a COVID-19 positive case among any resident or staff. Additionally, at a minimum, our liaisons will be reaching out to you weekly with an update. For those of you who have provided us with an email address, you can expect to receive weekly email updates from me. If we do not have an email, our liaisons will contact you with updates. Please know that in the event there were some significant change in your loved one, as is always our practice, you would be contacted by phone.

Lastly, we continue to be very appreciative of all your support and understanding during these most challenging and difficult times. Thank you for all of the kind words of support from our residents, families and community. Myself and my staff remain very grateful. As always, please do not hesitate to reach out to me at 607-722-3463 ext. 231.

Sincerely,

Vicky Morabito

Executive Director