



Caring. Connecting. *Community.*

April 27, 2020

Dear Residents, Family, & Staff,

United Methodist Homes Wesley Village Campus takes the safety of all of our residents very seriously. It is our utmost priority to keep our campus and residents safe and protected from exposure to the COVID-19 virus as they are among the most vulnerable. We are pleased to report that to date, our residents remain free of COVID-19. As part of our emergency preparedness plan, in accordance with guidance from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) which urge long-term care (LTC) facilities to create an isolated space to separate and care for residents who may test positive for COVID-19 from the rest of the resident population. United Methodist Homes is proactively creating such space.

Specifically, we have designated our 24-bed Short-Term Rehabilitation unit within Partridge-Tippett Nursing Facility as the ideal location to serve as two distinct and separate units that will contain: a 12-bed isolation stepdown unit for anyone returning or coming from the hospital in need of rehabilitation, and a 12-bed isolation unit to serve as a separate treatment unit for any of our residents who may test positive for COVID-19. Thorough analysis of the space involving the infection control team, engineers, and the department of health was conducted and structural changes and repurposing of space was completed to create the two separate and distinct units. There will be no crossover or access to the other areas of our facility. The COVID-19 + designated space has all private rooms with private showers and its own separate entrance from the outside. All services including staff will be exclusive to this unit. The isolation unit also has all private rooms and access to the spa area within the unit. This area will also have services and staff dedicated to this unit to eliminate any crossover. Again, there is no access to the other areas of the nursing facility and both areas have separate entrances and exits to the outside. Early efforts were successful to obtain an ample supply of personal protective equipment.

We believe all the steps taken to date have put us in the best possible position to face this crisis together. This designated space will allow us to provide a secure isolated environment with the highest level of care and exclusive staff for any of our residents who may need rehabilitation following a hospital stay, or in the event they become COVID-19 positive. We continue to monitor this situation very closely creating contingency plans that we can implement quickly if they are needed. We would like to assure residents throughout our entire campus that this unit will serve to protect *everyone* on the campus by providing a secure and isolated space in the event they become ill and in need of skilled care. We will work through any situation on a case-by-case basis communicating with the resident/responsible party and upon necessity promptly transfer resident to such unit. To date, we do not have any positive cases in our centers; however, it is prudent for us to prepare as this pandemic continues to affect communities, nursing homes, and long-term care settings across the country.

Our entire staff is working diligently every day to protect our residents and employees. We remain deeply committed to proactively meeting the needs of all during this crisis. For further information, one can reach out to me at 570-655-2891 ext. 5236.

Sincerely,

Danielle Janeski, Executive Director Wesley Village Campus