

September 3, 2020

Dear Lorien Residents and Families:

This week, Governor Hogan announced that Maryland will be entering Phase 3 of its Recovery Plan tomorrow. This means all businesses, including entertainment venues, will be allowed to reopen with limitations. This does not mean, however, that nursing homes will be loosening restrictions around visitation or other health and safety protocols.

While the reopening of businesses is a hopeful sign and next step, it is not an invitation to relax your personal health and safety measures. Please continue to wear a mask, practice strict hand washing hygiene, and maintain social distances. It is critical, not only for your own well-being, but also for your loved ones living in our Lorien communities who remain vulnerable to the virus.

We continue to work through outside visitation, and appreciate your patience. We did receive the testing equipment from the Health and Human Services for our Assisted Living buildings and are awaiting approval from the Maryland Department of Health for the point of care testing plan we submitted. We are deliberating on how we can safely and effectively use this testing in relation to visitation. We will continue to keep you posted as we know more.

This week you may have also read that state inspection records show that sixty- four (64) nursing homes in Maryland have been fined for failing to take sufficient infection control measures to protect residents from the coronavirus. Lorien was not cited and is not included on this list since our infection control practices have been and will remain a significant priority. We continue to be grateful to our committed and diligent staff for implementing these rigorous practices and taking great care of our residents.

Finally, please join me in congratulating Celeste Hudson, an Infection Preventionist and Certified Wound Nurse who assists with staff development and education in Lorien's Mt. Airy community for receiving the Health Facilities Association of Maryland (HFAM) inaugural Healthcare Hero award. According to HFAM, Celeste was honored today for her "performance during the coronavirus pandemic, including her demonstrated commitment to compassionate quality care, tireless work ethic, dedication to teamwork and enthusiasm for leadership." We are all very proud of her.

Sincerely,

Lou Grimm, Sr.
CEO, Lorien Health Services

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