

November 18, 2020

Dear Lorien Residents and Families:

As you may know, Governor Hogan held a press conference yesterday to address the current rise in COVID-19 cases and to announce additional Maryland Surge Response guidance. This guidance includes new restrictions on restaurants, retail businesses, sports venues, hospital capacity, and nursing homes.

With specific reference to Maryland nursing homes, the State's new directives state that until further notice, **all nursing home visitors must show a negative coronavirus test result that is no older than 72 hours prior to the planned visit.** FYI, free testing sites close to you can be found here: <http://covidtest.maryland.gov/>. In addition, in the case of the compassionate care / end of life situations, Point of Care (POC) testing will be available at Lorien buildings.

However, please note that at the time of this letter, all of Lorien's buildings are on outbreak status. Therefore, all visitations have been suspended. We will alert you when this status has changed and visitation can begin again under the State's directives.

Further, beginning no later than this Friday, November 20, nursing homes will also test residents weekly and **employees twice weekly.** As we have done throughout this pandemic, each Lorien facility will communicate the results of this testing and continue to implement infection control protocols in our continuing efforts to keep you and your loved ones safe.

Please note that these State testing orders are for nursing homes and **do not include assisted living facilities.** Lorien Harmony Hall is our only self-standing assisted living community. Lorien's other assisted living communities are physically attached to a Lorien nursing home and those buildings are awaiting further guidance on testing from the local health department.

You can also read more on the Governor's **hospital** surge measures and statewide capacity restrictions here: <https://governor.maryland.gov/2020/11/17/to-fight-covid-19-surge-governor-hogan-announces-hospital-surge-measures-statewide-capacity-restrictions/>

We know you are tired of these frequent, state mandated changes and are eager for a return to normal practices. It's hard to put into words how grateful our Lorien team is for your continued patience and support as we navigate our way through these ongoing challenges together. Thank you very much, and please continue to take care of yourselves.

Sincerely,

Lou Grimmel, Sr.
CEO, Lorien Health Services