

January 7, 2021

Dear Lorien Residents and Families:

We enter this New Year with COVID-19 vaccinations scheduled for nearly all of our facilities. While the distribution speed has been slower than anticipated according to Governor Hogan, we are **very** encouraged and grateful to have the vaccines in hand.

Maryland is currently in Phase 1A of its vaccine distribution plan. This includes all Lorien residents and staff, except for Harmony Hall. According to the State's timeline, Harmony Hall residents and staff will be included in Phase 1B, which is slated to begin the end of January. You can access more information on the State's priority groups and phased approach here:

<https://covidlink.maryland.gov/content/vaccine/>

To date, the following Lorien facilities have completed their first day of COVID-19 vaccination clinics: Taneytown, Columbia, Bel Air, Elkridge, and Bulle Rock. **Out of those locations, 87% of our residents and 52% of our employees have received the vaccination so far.** Currently, 1.435% of the Maryland population has received the first vaccine dose. Mays Chapel was scheduled to begin today, Encore is expected to begin tomorrow, and Mt. Airy on January 17. Second vaccination clinic days are also scheduled for all of our Lorien buildings through February. We will continue to report these vaccination numbers to you in these letters.

Although the employee rates are lower than we had originally anticipated, it appears as if these vaccinations numbers are comparable to those found in other states as reported here:

- High rate of NC nursing home residents taking COVID-19 vaccine, even as many employees refuse them, health leader says: <https://www.cbs17.com/news/north-carolina-news/high-rate-of-nc-nursing-home-residents-taking-covid-vaccine-even-as-many-employees-refuse-them-health-leader-says/>
- Many front-line workers refuse Covid vaccines as distribution rollout struggles: <https://www.nbcnews.com/news/us-news/many-frontline-workers-refuse-covid-19-vaccines-distribution-rollout-struggles-n1252617>

We understand the hesitance that some employees may have and in order to address this, we are continually educating our staff about the advantages and the safety data of the vaccination. Our Medical Directors and nursing leadership are **proactively addressing** any questions and/or concerns **staff** may have about being vaccinated. We will also be sending a letter to the team encouraging them to consider the vaccination.

Additionally, following the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) recommendations, we have launched an entire #LorienArmsOut education and social media campaign. We have **also** designed stickers for employees to wear once they have been vaccinated and many have already posted their photos and shared their experiences on our Facebook and Instagram pages. Some of our employees have reported that they feel privileged to be one of the first to receive the vaccine. Some have also stated that they received the vaccination because they want to help **maintain the safety of our residents and their family members.**

As a reminder, while vaccines are being administered, visitation constraints, testing, activities, and dining policies will remain in place. It is our hope that some of these restrictions can be eased as more of our residents and staff are vaccinated. We are grateful for your continued patience as the vaccine administration progresses.

Please follow us on Facebook, look out for this sticker, and help us encourage our Lorien team!



Sincerely,

Lou Grimm, Sr.
CEO, Lorien Health Services