

# Goodwin House Public Statement | April 15, 2020

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## Update | Goodwin House Infection Precaution Efforts

*Below, please read a letter that we distributed via email to families and friends of Goodwin House Residents on the evening of Tuesday, April 14, 2020.*

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Dear Friends & Family of GHA Residents,

We are writing to update you on infection precaution actions we implemented today in two of the small houses for the safety of our residents and staff. Small houses are part of our nursing care level of living at GHA. Up to ten residents live in each small house, and every resident has a private room.

Earlier today, we took the step of limiting access to the Willis and Shenandoah Houses. The only individuals with access to these two houses are a dedicated care team, a registered nurse and management. Family members of residents in these houses have been contacted individually and are aware of this update.

The decision to close access to the Willis and Shenandoah Houses was not taken lightly. Every decision we make and precaution we implement has one purpose – the health and wellness of our residents and the staff serving them.

Here are the details:

### **Q. Why is this action being taken?**

A. A staff member serving residents in the Willis and Shenandoah Houses has tested positive for COVID-19. The staff member last worked at the Shenandoah House on April 8-9 for an overnight shift and the Willis House on April 9-10 for an overnight shift. The staff member experienced one symptom beginning on Sunday, was tested on Monday and learned the results today. This staff person is isolating at home. We are preparing a care package to send to the staff member, and we invite you to keep this individual in your thoughts.

### **Q. Does this mean our residents and staff in these two small houses are at risk?**

A. The staff member was working the overnight shift and wearing a mask. Overnight staff typically have minimal contact with residents and other colleagues. We are taking significant precautions to monitor the residents' health and protect them. Of all the residents in these two houses, one is experiencing COVID-19 symptoms; no other residents are experiencing symptoms. We are monitoring the health of all these residents throughout the day and overnight for symptoms.

*We are committed to keeping you, residents and staff healthy.  
Please join us in our efforts to keep our community infection-free.*



**Q. How will the residents and staff of the Willis and Shenandoah Houses be protected?**

A. These residents and staff will be protected in several ways. First, we are assigning dedicated staff to care for the residents in each house. This will minimize exposure. Second, the dedicated staff members and RN serving the residents of these two houses will wear Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) to prevent the spread of any infection. Third, this dedicated team will be provided with new PPE at the beginning of each shift. These are the most important actions we can take to protect our residents while we are caring for them.

**Q. Are the family members of the residents in these two small houses able to receive updates on their condition?**

A. Yes, absolutely. When we reached out to these family members earlier today, we provided them with contact information for Cathy Farmer, director of clinical services, as well as the direct contact number for the nurse on duty, whom they can contact 24/7.

Please reach out if you have any questions. We will respond to them promptly. You can reach us via email at [communications@goodwinhouse.org](mailto:communications@goodwinhouse.org)

We remain grateful for your patience and understanding during this most unusual time, and for continuing to support our protocols. Every one of us has a role to play in our collective efforts, and we are thankful for yours.