Goodwin House Public Statement | July 10, 2020

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 Friday, July 10, 2020.

We hope you all had a safe and healthy Fourth of July weekend. Celebrations might have been different from previous years, though the three-day weekend offered us a chance for rest and rejuvenation.

Inaccurate Local Media Coverage of GHA COVID-19 Cases

On July 9, the Alexandria Times published a news article with incorrect information about the presence of the coronavirus at Goodwin House Alexandria. We are pleased to report there is no outbreak of cases. We want to reassure everyone that GHA has no resident cases and just two staff cases at present – not 14 (as the article indicates). GHA has had a total of 14 cases – one resident and 13 staff – since the pandemic began in March. You can read more details and our clarification to what The Times reported in this statement on our website.

As a reminder, we report the COVID-19 case situation daily to our residents. We also publish the end-of-week case situation in the Resident Update published every Friday, and we publish this information weekly on our website.

Update on Campus Visits

We are happy to share that we are able to expand the window for receiving test results before you visit our campuses. Test results are now good for 14 days from the date the results are issued. In this week's Resident update, we shared a list of testing locations. We suggest that you confirm the current turnaround time for results with these testing sites before selecting one to use.

We are required to follow guidance from local health departments before welcoming visitors to our higher levels of living (Assisted Living, Memory Support and the Health Care Center). We are awaiting the test results that will indicate whether we will be allowed to re-open Assisted Living and Memory Support to visitors on both campuses. We hope to have an update on these areas soon.

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

Infection Precaution

Goodwin House Alexandria Update:

This week, we learned that the Alexandria Health Department will allow visits with Health Care Center residents at GHA. Residents and their loved ones have received details on the protocols they must follow.

Goodwin House Bailey's Crossroads Update:

We anticipate receiving permission from the Fairfax County Health Department to open the Health Care Center (HCC) at GHBC to visitors later next week. We will communicate the timing and procedures for visits with HCC residents and their loved ones when we receive the permission to resume visits.

Please help us all stay safe and healthy by following our procedures for visits to loved ones on our campuses. Your compliance with our guidelines is helping to keep the infection rate on our campuses very low. Thank you!

Remembering the Elders of Coronavirus

This week, Goodwin House participated in the Global Aging Network's Special Day of Remembrance, paying tribute to the elders lost worldwide due to COVID-19. GHA Chaplain Rev. Bruce Stewart led a short service and candle lighting to remember older adults around the globe who have been lost to COVID-19, including two Goodwin House residents. Watch the service. [https://youtu.be/mHErs8pbtEA]

At both communities, our chaplains and Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) students continue their efforts to support residents and staff through this pandemic. If your loved one is in need of support during this difficult time, please encourage them to reach out to their chaplain - GHA: Bruce Stewart 703.824.1284 / GHBC: Theresa Brion 703.578.7224.

Stay Cool & Keep In Touch

With summer in full swing, temps have been on the rise. We hope you enjoy the heat while staying cool and comfortable. As always, we appreciate you and all that you are doing to keep everyone safe and healthy through these times. Please get in touch if you have questions or comments.