

Goodwin House Public Statement | August 7, 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, August 7, 2020.

We continue to welcome many of you to visit your loved ones on campus. We all benefit from seeing your familiar faces, and we especially know what a difference it makes to residents.

As of today, 70 visits occurred at GHBC this week and 72 visits took place at GHA. We are working as quickly as we can to safely allow for visits with residents of all levels of living. We appreciate the patience and understanding of those of you - who have not yet been able to book a campus visit due to the restrictions in place when a staff member in the higher levels of living has tested positive for COVID-19.

We know how important these visits are to you, and hope it won't be long before the local health departments give us permission to include all residents in our visits.

Safe Path Forward Protocol Update

In light of the latest baseline test results for Independent Living residents and the case rates for Northern Virginia, Goodwin House has updated our Safe Path Forward protocols. Today, residents received [new protocols](#) for off-campus travel, appointments and new residents moving into our communities. Thank you for taking time to review the updated protocols and for reinforcing them with your loved ones.

The new protocols are effective today, Friday, August 7. Questions about these protocols should be directed to GHA Executive Director or Barb D'Agostino or GHBC Executive Director Justin Carwile.

Dining Services Safely Returns Takeout Options

We continue to provide meals via room service to all residents. We are also excited to be able to add more options for dining, with the return of several takeout options at both communities. We asked our Dining Services leaders to share how they are making takeout safe for residents. [Read the Q&A](#) for the full interview.

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



The return of these takeout options not only provides more meal choices, it also is a great way for residents to safely venture outside of their apartments and benefit from stretching their legs, being mobile and seeing friends as they are moving about campus. These seemingly small activities contribute to mobility and socialization, which can ease feelings of isolation.

Regarding our efforts to ensure everyone's safety, we stagger meal pick-up times to maintain social distancing. We hope more residents will take advantage of the take-out opportunities for safe socialization and delicious food!

Planning Ahead for Flu Season

Health authorities and medical professionals are now suggesting that all Americans move quickly to complete routine check-ups and appointments before flu season arrives. Why? Because if COVID-19 cases surge during flu season, there is a risk that we may go back to stay-at-home orders and other restrictions to stop the spread of the virus. In [this week's Resident Update](#) we encouraged residents to schedule their routine check-ups and appointments before the fall flu season hits.

Thank you for encouraging your loved ones to book appointments soon. And we encourage you to do the same - we want everyone in the Goodwin House family to stay healthy!

It Is Easy Being Green

The beloved Kermit the Frog is known for singing about the challenges of being green. At Goodwin House, we've found an easy way to increase our green factor -- composting! In case you missed our feature article from last week's The Good Life (our monthly e-letter featuring our top blog posts of the month), we thought we'd [share our article](#) about the program we introduced about a year ago with Compost Crew.

In these times of increased take-out and meal delivery, the composting efforts have been especially effective and helpful. We thought you might enjoy learning some of the details behind our program, as well as the residents who advocated for it.

As always, we encourage you to [be in touch](#) with any questions or comments. Enjoy the weekend and we'll be in touch again next Friday