

# Goodwin House Public Statement | August 14, 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 Friday, August 14, 2020.*

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As we reach mid-August, we realize that we've been at this for nearly six months now. Time passes in interesting ways, and we're glad that we have had a chance to connect with you regularly through these weekly updates and keep you apprised of resident life in our communities. Thanks for continuing to meet us here, week after week, and for engaging with us on these important details. We hope you find this update informative and assuring of our efforts to keep your loved ones safe and engaged in this "new normal".

## Update on Campus Visits

We have updated our testing requirements for campus visits. Test results are now valid for 21 days after the day the test was administered. You can find updated information and book your visit at [www.goodwinhouse.org/campus-visits](http://www.goodwinhouse.org/campus-visits).

At GHA, we learned of new COVID-19 cases among staff members this week. Because of this, we must suspend visits with residents of some higher levels of living. Visits can continue to be scheduled with Independent Living Residents as well as Residents of The Dominion Assisted Living. Unfortunately, we are unable to schedule visits with residents of The Richmond Assisted Living and Stonebrook (Memory Support). Health Care Center visits are possible for all households EXCEPT Rappahannock. We hope to be able to allow visits for residents of these areas again soon.

Executive Director Barbara D'Agostino recently shared: "We are constantly striving to balance the health and safety of residents with a desire to welcome visitors. This is difficult on us all, though most especially on residents in the higher levels of living. We are working hard to open all areas back up for visits, and we thank everyone for their patience and understanding as we work towards that goal."

At GHBC, we are glad to be able to welcome visitors who wish to spend time with residents of all levels of living. We hope you are able to join us and spend time with your loved one.

Executive Director Justin Carwile recently shared: "One of our greatest challenges is the balance of safety with residents' family time. It is just plain hard for everyone, and especially our residents in the higher levels of living. Earlier this week while serving at the GHBC

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



screening desk, I had the opportunity to visit with family members of several residents. I was so grateful to hear their heartfelt comments of appreciation for our wonderful GHBC staff and the reassurance that GHI leadership has been taking the right steps to protect everyone.”

## Protocol Q&A

We’ve received some great questions following our protocol reference guide that we shared last week. We developed a new Q&A that we shared with residents today. It shares more details about leaving and returning to campus, what trips require quarantine, whether going into local businesses is allowed, visiting with loved ones off-campus and more. Please take time to review this Q&A and discuss it with your loved one.

## Have You Heard of the COVIDWISE App?

COVIDWISE is a new app for your cell phone created by the Virginia Department of Health. It lets you know if you have been exposed to a reported case of COVID-19, but it can only start tracking you once you download the app. We’ve recommended that all our residents and staff download the app to their cell phones. Read more about it in this week’s Resident Update.

## We’re on a Journey. Together!

When we first started to address this pandemic nearly six months ago, we often heard people say “This is a marathon, not a sprint.” Wise minds have come to recognize that this is journey, and this virus is one we are learning to live with, and will live with for many years even after treatments and vaccines are commonplace. History tells us that we can overcome illness and disease and find ways to reduce their risk and impact. We will get through this one, too.

All journeys have ups and downs, yet every journey is better when you navigate it with others. We are incredibly grateful for residents and their fortitude, commitment, resilience and support in these trying times. We’re also thankful for you, our extended Friends & Family. Thank you for coming along with us on this journey and most of all loving and encouraging your loved ones in our communities in the ways available to you. As always, please reach out to us with any questions.