

Goodwin House Public Statement | Oct. 15, 2021

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 October 15, 2021.

As the weather cools and we enjoy a slow transition into fall, we know the holiday season will be upon us sooner than we think.

While we look forward to the festive season, we remain steadfast in our efforts to keep everyone safe and healthy as the pandemic is still very much part of our lives. The IPP (Infection Precaution and Planning) Team continues to meet regularly to discuss protocols and monitor the situation.

The IPP Team met this week, and we distributed a letter to residents today. We wanted to share highlights from that letter.

Vaccine Clinics

We recently held clinics for both the seasonal flu vaccine and for COVID-19 vaccine boosters. The booster clinics held thus far were for those residents who received the Pfizer vaccine. Given the FDA approval announced today of the Moderna vaccine booster and pending CDC approval, we have scheduled our first Moderna booster clinic for October 27 at GHA.

If your loved one still needs their seasonal flu vaccine, or if they received the Pfizer vaccine and have yet to receive their booster, please encourage them to contact the clinic. If your loved one received the Moderna vaccine, please let them know that we will share details with them as soon as we have them.

Mask Protocols

The IPP Team determined that we should continue to follow the protocols currently in place. We ask that residents wear masks whenever they are outside their apartments, in common areas as well as while in meetings or group events. Guests must wear surgical masks while visiting campus. This decision is based on guidance from the CDC and local health departments, and with consideration for the prevalence of the delta variant in the U.S. and transmission rates in our region.

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



Holiday Planning

As we look to the holiday season, the IPP Team discussed plans and expectations for the upcoming Thanksgiving holiday. At this time, the IPP Team anticipates that we will be able to serve Thanksgiving meals in our dining venues, and that we will be open to residents and their loved ones who are fully vaccinated. Also, residents will be able to go off campus for celebrations with family and friends without quarantines upon return. Our protocols may change as they are dependent on local transmission rates and the number of cases on our campuses.

Goodwin House in the News!

With this update, we also want to share some recent good news. On Constitution Day (September 17), [we hosted an event on each of our campuses](#) to celebrate staff who have participated in our Citizenship Application Fee Grant Program. Through generous donations to the Goodwin House Foundation, this program covers the application fees for staff who wish to become U.S. citizens. The fees cost more than \$750, which can be a considerable amount of money for someone who is supporting a family or starting a new life for themselves in a new country. Since 2018, more than 90 employees have received a grant from the Foundation.

We believe the Goodwin House Citizenship program is innovative and has the potential to help overcome what is a significant talent shortage for the field of senior living. The Washington Post agrees with us, and [published an extensive article on our program](#) on September 20. Following the article in the Post, Voice of America reached out to report on our citizenship program as well and profiled our program in [this video news story](#) on October 14.

Thanks to this coverage, we have received calls and emails from individuals and organizations across the entire country. People are asking how they, too, could start such a program at their own organizations. We are developing a guide that we will share on our website so that others can do just that!

Looking Back with Gratitude, and Forward with Hope

October marks the beginning of a new fiscal year at Goodwin House. As we reflect on the past year, we are filled with gratitude for the residents who enliven our campuses, for the staff who care for them with dedication and love, and for you, the friends and family who provide unfailing encouragement and support to your loved ones and to all of us at Goodwin House.

We also look toward the future with hope, because we know that you're still with us. Thanks for being part of our Goodwin House Family!

While these updates are less frequent than they used to be, please know we are always here if you have any questions.

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