HOMEWOOD

RETIREMENT CENTERS, INC

TELEPHONE
301-582-1626

FAX
301-582-4896

16107 ELLIOTT PARKWAY
WILLIAMSPORT, MD 21795-4084

March 12, 2020

Homewood's Coronavirus (COVID-19) Preparedness Planning Update

We continue to follow this situation very closely, working with our government and public health agencies, emergency management, and local health care providers to learn as much as we can and implement the most effective preparedness plan possible. **At this time, there are no confirmed cases on any of our campuses**. However, as cases of this virus are confirmed across the country and our state/commonwealth, we are continually evaluating our prevention plan to identify additional ways we can minimize exposure and risk for our campus residents.

Our planning measures are based on many interrelated factors and considerations, including the most recent recommendations of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the State Departments, and The World Health Organization, to name a few.

For a reasonably healthy individual, this virus may have mild symptoms; but for the elderly, can have very serious symptoms and consequences, including death. For this reason, we feel a robust approach is necessary to protect our campus residents. As such, we have implemented the following temporary measures to our campus operations;

- For family members and friends of residents who live in our health care center and personal care /assisted living care settings, we are restricting non-essential visitation. Exceptions to this visitation restriction may be;
    - immediate family of residents who are at the end stage of life or have a critical or time sensitive condition,
    - family members in need of education to support a safe discharge, and
    - family members who need to complete medical or admission authorizations

- Essential visitation will need to be approved by campus management and will be limited to the hours of 11:00AM –7:00PM.

- All co-workers and essential visitors will be screened before being permitted to enter the facility. Screening will include:

    - obtaining temperatures,
    - questioning and observation for the cardinal signs of COVID-19, which includes- fever, cough, shortness of breath, and

- exposure risk either through travel to an affected geographical area or exposure to another individual with presumptive/confirmed diagnosis.

  Any individual with a risk identified through screening will be denied entry.

- Campus residents whose spouse resides in our health care or personal care/ assisted living care settings are permitted to visit their spouse between the hours of 11:00AM –7:00PM.
- Any campus resident or co-worker who pursues international or domestic travel to countries with identified community transmission will be required to self-quarantine upon return for 14 days. This includes layover locations. Residents and co-workers under quarantine will not be permitted to enter campus buildings during the 14 day period.
- All co-workers and essential visitors granted access to the campus will be required to wash their hands upon entering the building and directed to the nearest handwashing station.
- Our campus activities and group functions, such as church services, musical activities, parties etc. will be limited to only our campus residents. This includes our campus restaurants and dining venues.
- Activities for our health care and personal care/assisted living residents will be limited to on-campus locations. This includes family trips.
- Resident care plan and support plan meetings will be held via remote avenues, such as telephone conferencing or video conferencing.

A number of environmental and administrative controls, such as additional hand sanitization stations, information stations, sign placement at various locations on campus, education for co-workers and residents on proper infection control prevention measures, and additional environmental cleaning and revised schedules have also been implemented.

We do recognize that restricting visitation has negative effects on the affected residents and families and visitors. We are encouraging and facilitating other ways that might be utilized, such as telephone, email, text, facetime, videoconferencing, etc.

We are also posting updates to our Facebook pages and our campus websites for families and visitors to reference.

We understand the impact measures may have on your daily life. Please know that our primary concern is to protect the health and well-being of our campus residents. We appreciate your patience and understanding as we navigate this together.

Fondly,

Candace McMullen
Vice President of Operations
Homewood Retirement Centers, Inc.