

November 13, 2020

First, we'd like to thank you for your patience during these fast-changing times. We do want to keep you up to date on the actions we are taking as we move forward into the winter months, flu season and the resurgence of COVID 19. We are taking every precaution we can to keep residents and staff safe.

We continue to meet with the Maryland and Charles County Departments of Health regarding clarity on the regulations of indoor visitation. Following Governor Hogan's press conference on Tuesday, we were issued guidelines with language discussing testing of visitors. To all of us in the Nursing Home industry in Maryland, this has created many questions. Once we have a clear understanding of what the expectations are, we will resume indoor visitations. It is our hope that by Tuesday we will begin visitation once again, however it may need to be relocated to another area or take place outside which the Maryland Department of Health sites as a preference.

We have purchased and installed HEPA filtration systems in every resident room and gathering area within each unit. Unlike in March and April, it is now known by experts that the virus is aerosolized; air circulation is critical. We believe these will add another measure of safety.

We have purchased and installed plastic barriers in areas in the facility where social distancing between residents becomes more challenging.

Weekly testing of staff continues at Sagepoint, which exceeds the Department of Health requirement. In addition, we are using the more accurate, more costly PCR (swab) testing at a significant expense. We do have the Point of Care (POC) testing equipment that is known as the rapid test. We have concerns on the accuracy of this test, in particular with pre-symptomatic and asymptomatic people. While POC testing is less expensive than the PCR testing, we believe, as we go through the holidays and flu season, that it is extremely important to continue to utilize the PCR test and to be highly diligent.

Ongoing, aggressive cleaning procedures continue throughout all of our facilities.

Again, the Sagepoint staff and administration appreciates your on-going patience during this time. As always, we strive, every day as a team to do our best to keep residents happy and healthy. Our Activities Staff works creatively to plan stimulating and engaging activities for the residents in a safe way. We do understand that, as we enter into the holidays, this may be a challenging time for all. We will continue to communicate with you as new information emerges or regulations change.

Be safe. Be well.