



April 14, 2020

Dear Residents and Team Members,

We are happy to announce that at this time we do not have any known cases of COVID-19 in any of our **independent or assisted living homes**. The number of cases stands at four in our skilled nursing center. Additionally, there is one team member at Loomis Lakeside at Reeds Landing who has tested positive. The team member reports feeling very well, with only some tiredness over the weekend followed by a low grade fever, which is now gone. The team member is recovering at home and will return to work under the guidelines of the CDC and DPH. The team member was able to be tested at the new site in West Springfield and received the results within 24 hours.

As we all know, the ability to obtain testing has been difficult for everyone. However, with the confirmation of the first case of COVID-19 in the nursing center on Thursday, we have become eligible for a new testing program. This program enables us to test everyone in our nursing center and assisted living neighborhood at Loomis Lakeside at Reeds Landing, as well as the team members working in those areas. The most important difference in this program is the ability to test everyone, regardless of whether or not they are experiencing symptoms. We ordered the testing kits on Friday and have just received them. It will take 2-3 days after submitting the tests to get the results, so we are still several days away from having the results. We are grateful for the partnership of our medical director, Dr. Mintz, for his agreement to spearhead this testing program with us, as we must have orders from a licensed professional to obtain the testing kits.

On Sunday, National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases Director Dr. Anthony Fauci said at a White House press briefing that rough estimates indicate "25 to 50 percent" of those with the coronavirus infection may not display symptoms. We must be prepared for more positive test results when we test the entire population of residents and team members at the nursing center but we believe the knowledge we will get from the testing will be helpful in working to limit the spread as much as possible

We wanted to provide you with the steps we have and are taking in the nursing center since the first positive test result was received:

1. Those residents who have tested positive for COVID-19 have been moved to the isolation wing
2. Team members have been, and continue to be, assigned to specific residents throughout the nursing center (consistent assignments), limiting the number of people coming in contact with each resident
3. All team members in the nursing center wear full PPE (gloves, gowns, masks). This helps to keep the team member from becoming infected, and or spreading it. Those team members working in the isolation wing also wear eye protection, where that coverage is deemed necessary

4. Meals are delivered to all residents by the nursing team, limiting the residents' exposure to dining service's team members
5. Meals are served on disposable dishes
6. Housekeeping team members are assigned to the nursing center only and are not going to other parts of the community
7. Some Nursing team members have volunteered to stay on site following the end of their work shift in a separate part of the building
8. All residents in the nursing center are being monitored closely, including having their temperature and pulse oximetry taken multiple times daily. In addition, any changes in their condition in any way are reported and followed closely, as the symptoms associated with the virus continue to evolve.

Thank you for everything you are doing to help us fight the spread of the virus throughout the Loomis Communities. As we are seeing in the nursing center, this virus is very difficult to contain. Social distancing, hand washing, and facial covering are the most important actions we can each take every day, please keep doing your part! As always, please do not hesitate to contact us with questions or concerns.

With appreciation,

Margaret Mantoni, CEO
Robert Claflin, Executive Director, Applewood
Craig Johnsen, Executive Director, LLRL
Maureen O'Toole, Executive Director, Loomis Village
John Armstrong, Applewood resident
Nancy Eddy, Applewood resident
Carolyn Hoyt, Loomis Village resident
Dan Marx, Loomis Lakeside at Reeds Landing resident
Ann McIntosh, Loomis Lakeside at Reeds Landing resident
Janet Veitch, Loomis Village resident