



April 19, 2021

Dear Residents and Families,

I hope this finds you all safe and healthy.

We are seeing an increase in COVID-19 cases in Blair County and throughout the state. The county positivity rate as of Friday was just under 10%. This is somewhat concerning and serves as a reminder that though we have made great strides in recovery, COVID-19 remains a serious issue. As we know from our previous experience, as county rates increase, rates within our Homewood community also increase.

Today as part of our routine testing, three residents in our assisted lifestyle personal care community tested positive for the virus. As a result, we immediately implemented mitigation strategies and have halted our reopening plan in this part of our community

I share with you below a brief update of COVID response and reopening activity for each level of care on our campus.

***Assisted Lifestyle***

Reopening plans have been temporarily halted with the news of three positive COVID-19 cases among our residents. We are currently conducting contact tracing and testing all residents and coworkers. At this time, all other tests are negative.

The positive residents are isolating in their apartments and have been assigned dedicated staff to provide care and monitoring over the next two weeks. They are experiencing mild to no symptoms at this time. We have implemented the highest level of infection control measures as part of our mitigation strategy.

The rest of our assisted lifestyle residents will be in precautionary isolation to limit any potential spread of the virus. Over the next two weeks, we will test all residents and coworkers twice weekly. Residents will be provided in-room dining and activities and visitation will be on hold.

## ***Health Care Center***

### **Springfield:**

Springfield continues to have no active COVID-19 cases in residents or coworkers. The residents are enjoying scheduled visits with families and are taking advantage of the outdoor spaces when our weather cooperates.

### **Countryside and Waterside Personal Care:**

Our Countryside and Waterside units continue to be free of COVID. We continue to offer scheduled visitation for residents on these units. We have started intermittent outdoor visits and activities as weather permits.

## ***Independent Living***

Our independent living services and amenities have all resumed with a few safety precautions in place to promote social distancing. We have increased sanitation of public areas and offer hand hygiene stations throughout the campus. We encourage residents to follow safety precautions that include maintaining safe distances from others, wearing masks and washing hands frequently.

We hope to increase our outdoor events and activities as the weather permits. The patio at the café is now open and we are anxious to begin our summer grilling events.

I pray you all stay safe in the coming week and are able to enjoy the blessing of spring time. Reopening updates will be posted to our website as changes occur to keep you informed.



Lisa Defibaugh, Executive Director