



September 25, 2020

Dear Residents, Families, Co-Workers and Volunteers;

Greetings! We have many updates to share since our last communication. As I write this, the air has already become crisp and the leaves on our trees are beginning to change color. It is hard to believe it has been over six months since we initiated our emergency operation plan in response to the COVID-19 Pandemic. We have come a long way and been through many changes since this all began. I am happy to report that at this time, Homewood at Martinsburg remains free of any COVID-19 cases. While we have been truly blessed, we must all continue our efforts to keep our campus safe.

We remain diligent in our efforts to reduce the risk of an outbreak. Frequent testing is one way we hope to identify anyone who may have the virus, so that we can respond quickly with mitigation efforts. In addition to our laboratory testing, we now have the ability to perform on site point of care testing of any person displaying symptoms and receive results in 15 minutes. This is an excellent tool to help us identify the virus early.

We are now testing all co-workers at a frequency that corresponds with the COVID-19 positivity rate in our county. To date, all results have been negative. We also test or require proof of testing for all contracted essential care providers, volunteers and compassionate caregivers.

We continue to cautiously move forward with our reopening steps. We continue to monitor conditions closely and may need to adjust as there are changes in regulatory requirements or risk level in our county. I have included brief updates for each area of our campus.

Independent Living

Though we continue to follow the Governor's order on indoor capacity limits, we did complete the self-certification process to allow our café to operate at 50% occupancy. You will see some changes in table placement and directional signs for foot traffic to achieve proper distancing that is required with this change. Our pool, fitness center, and cyber lounge will be available 7 days per week. We are limiting use of these amenities to our residents only at this time due to the current capacity limits.

Over 

Assisted Lifestyles

All staff, essential care providers, and compassionate caregivers will be COVID tested at least monthly while our county is in the green phase. Should our county COVID rates increase, our testing frequency will increase as well.

We continue with several visitation options for residents and families. Visits can be scheduled through Mandi Cottle, our Assisted Lifestyles Director. You may reach her by calling (814) 793-1303 or by email at alcottle@hmwd.org.

Health Care

All staff, essential care providers, and compassionate caregivers will be COVID tested at least monthly while our county is in the green phase. Should our county COVID rates increase, our testing frequency will increase as well.

We continue in Step 3 of reopening and offer several visitation options for residents and families. We are blessed to have specially trained volunteers who are assisting us with visitation.

Though we continue to operate with many COVID related restrictions, I am pleased to see our residents enjoying many activities including bingo, our summer barbeques, worship services, and a variety of crafts and games. As I hear the laughter and see the buzz of activity, I know all is well here at Homewood, and that God is with us.

I pray you all stay well and enjoy the beautiful change of season as we say goodbye to summer and welcome in fall.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lisa Defibaugh".

Lisa Defibaugh, Executive Director