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**WEEKLY UPDATE**

**10/1/2020**

Dear Residents and Families/Representatives,

Please accept this letter as our weekly update regarding the status of COVID-19 in our facility. Since the onset of this virus, we have had one resident test positive (but on a re-test on the same day tested negative) and three staff members test positive for COVID-19.

As you might be aware, and as we have previously communicated, CMS has distributed guidance for nursing facilities to allow visitors. While we are so excited to for you to see your loved ones and to have you back at our facility, there are many factors that determine when a facility can open up for visitors, up to and including our county's COVID-19 positivity rate, residents' health status, or if there is a COVID outbreak in the facility. Please be assured we are working hard to create visitation plans that will allow you to visit your loved ones as soon as possible, but we need to make sure the visits can be done safely. We will let you know as soon as those plans are in place.

As always, we are working hard to keep everyone in our community safe and we will continue to practice the enhanced safety precautions that are known to prevent the spread of COVID-19, such as only essential personnel are allowed inside the facility and we screen them for signs and symptoms of illness prior to entering. Our residents are continually monitored and staff is using PPE as recommended by the CDC. Staff is frequently reminded and encouraged to practice social distancing and to use hand sanitizer and frequently wash their hands when they are in the facility and out in the community. We ask them not to report to work if they have symptoms of illness.

Please continue to check our website for weekly updates as well as notification of new cases. As always, we will reach out to you individually if your loved one is displaying symptoms of COVID-19 or tests positive for COVID-19.

If you have any questions or concerns please contact us directly at 301-777-5941.

Sincerely,

Debra Buckalew  
Administrator