

March 9, 2021

Dear Friends & Family members,

Our weekly testing showed no positive COVID-19 results. We are currently COVID free among our resident and staff populations.

I am also happy to report that our application to allow in-room "Compassionate Care" visits was approved. While outdoor visits are still preferred (weather permitting), scheduling has begun for in-room compassionate care visits. We appreciate your patience as we continue to schedule these visits. We must prove to our inspectors that these visits are being done with safety as a priority. As a reminder, to stay in compliance with regulations, we must first document the need for a "Compassionate Care" visit as defined by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services.

Attached, you will find our COVID-19 Weekly Update, Compassionate Care Visitor Checklist, and Compassionate Care Visitation Guidelines.

Thank you,

Melissa

**MELISSA BRUMBAUGH**

Administrator

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**URGENT MEMORANDUM**

**DATE:** March 9, 2021

**TO:** All Bethany Home Association Community Members and Visitors

**FROM:** Melissa Brumbaugh, Administrator

**RE:** COVID-19 Update from Our Community - What It Means for You

Dear Bethany Home Association Residents, Families, Staff, and Community Members,

Since our last report, we continue to have no cases of COVID-19 among our residents, and now have no cases of COVID-19 among our staff.

We have successfully applied to move back to Phase 1 of our Reopening Plan. Some essential service workers will be allowed to enter our building, and we have resumed visits at our visitation station. If you would like to arrange a visit through the visitation station or an outdoor visit (weather permitting) please contact our Activities Department. Outdoor visits are preferred, but in-room compassionate care visits are also being scheduled. Please understand that we have limited availability due to the time, tests, and materials that these in-room compassionate care visits require. Staff will schedule and assist with in-room compassionate care visits.

At this time, we are following guidance provided by McPherson County Health Department. We are continuing our point of care COVID testing. Individuals identified as suspected positive through in-house antigen testing will be referred for confirmatory PCR testing.

McPherson County Health Department has advised that all unaffected staff should remain at work and follow standard precautionary protocols. We will continue to screen all staff as they arrive at work, wear masks, practice good hand hygiene, and we will be conducting point of care and PCR testing of staff as advised under current regulatory guidance.

It is our hope to progress toward a full reopening in the coming months. Our ability to progress to a full reopening will depend on the health of our greater community. Once regional positivity rates have decreased to a level that no longer warrants concern, we should be granted permission to reopen our doors to in-person visits. Our success depends on you!

We also ask community members to practice safety standards to protect our staff and residents. Our dedicated caregivers rely on each of you to keep them healthy when they are not at work. Together we can overcome this virus and your assistance in the effort is appreciated.

If you have questions or concerns, please reach out to:

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Sincerely,



Melissa Brumbaugh, Administrator  
Bethany Home Association