

Dear Residents, Responsible Parties, Resident Loved Ones and Staff,

COVID -19 is a respiratory illness that is spread through coughing, sneezing, and contact with mucus or saliva from the nose, mouth or throat of an infected individual. Older patients and those with chronic medical conditions are at higher risk for severe illness from COVID-19.

On March 13, 2020, the President of the United States put a temporary ban on all visitors and non-essential personnel allowed in skilled nursing facilities due to COVID-19 and vulnerable population we serve. That same day, our facility followed all Executive Orders and has since only allowed essential personnel into the facility after passing our COVID-19 screening process. Essential personnel include facility staff, physicians, nurse practitioners, physician assistants, therapy staff, EMT, x-ray technicians, pharmacy staff and transport drivers for essential medical appointments. We only allow visitors for compassionate care reasons such as end of life visits and these visits must be coordinated with the Administrator and Director of Nursing.

Our facility continues to follow all Executive Orders, Centers for Disease Control guidelines and Arizona Department of Health Services regulations for skilled nursing facilities. Our facility also works closely with the Mohave County Public Health and follows their continued guidance in our efforts to keep our residents and staff safe during these unprecedented times.

As of September 10, 2020, our facility has a total of **0 current COVID positive resident and 0 staff members.**

Our facility has followed and continues to follow CDC guidelines and everyday preventative actions such as:

- Washing hands as this is the number one way to prevent the spread of infection. All essential staff wash hands for 20 seconds with soap and water immediately upon entrance of facility, after providing resident cares, using the restroom, before and after eating, shaking and holding hands.
- Utilization of alcohol based hand sanitizer
- Covering your cough or sneeze with a tissue and immediately throw the tissue in the trash and clean hands with soap and water.
- Masks worn in facility when within 6 ft. of staff or resident
- Screening of all staff prior to entry of facility, staff self-screening though out their shift and screening of staff prior to exiting the facility after shift. Screening requires staff to stay home when sick and having symptoms such as temperatures over 100 degrees F, cough, congestion, runny nose, sore throat, shortness of breath, tightness in chest, loss of smell or taste and body aches or those who have had any contact with a COVID-19 patients outside the facility.

During this time, we understand it is very important that you are able to stay connected with your loved ones. We highly encourage all residents and resident's loved ones to utilize our alternative means to visit with those residing in our facility. This includes the telephone, Facetime or Skype. If you need assistance in connecting with your loved one via these means of communication, please contact our facility Activities Director for further assistance.

Our facility continues to be proactive by vigorously following all cleaning and disinfection procedures and be using EPA approved cleaning products. This means daily sanitizing of highly touched surfaces

which include but are not limited to flat surfaces, door knobs, objects that are touched often, such as bathrooms, water fountains, tables, handrails, faucet handles, phones, etc.

Our facility recently participated in our COVID-19 Focused Survey for Nursing Homes with the Arizona Department of Health Services to determine whether our facility is implementing proper infection prevention and control practices to prevent the development and transmission of COVID-19 and other communicable diseases and infections. We completed this survey with no issues or concerns.

We will continue to monitor closely and follow all Arizona Department of Health Services, Mohave County Health Department and CDC guidelines. In the event we would have a positive or suspected COVID-19 case within our facility, we would notify you within 24 hours or by 5:00 pm by next day, whichever is sooner. This update will be via our COVID-19 Update link on the homepage of our facility web page.

We appreciate your understanding as we navigate through during these unprecedented times. If you have any questions, please reach out to the facility Administrator.