

## COVID-19 UPDATE

**7-01-2020**

To Our Residents and Family Members:

The Governor announced that our region will remain in Phase 3 of reopening this week, and the total number of New Yorkers testing positive for COVID-19, as well as virus-related hospitalizations, continues to decline each day. However, he emphasized that it is crucial for all New Yorkers to stay disciplined since there has been a surge of new COVID cases around the country.

Since our last update, there are no positive cases in our LCC resident population, and our designated COVID-19 section is empty. One new staff person tested positive this week and is quarantining at home, per NYS DOH guidelines. LCC has had no COVID-19 related deaths to date.

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid (CMS) announced that, as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, State Survey Agencies (SSA) would focus their facility inspections exclusively on infection control and other serious health and safety threats. SSA's were directed to complete infection control surveys in 100% of the nursing homes in their states by July 31. On Friday, June 26, an unannounced focused Infection Control Survey was conducted at LCC. Three surveyors conducted an inspection of the facility, including our dedicated COVID-19 section. They reviewed policies and procedures, observed and interviewed our staff, and ensured our personal protective equipment (PPE) inventories were adequate. No issues were identified by the survey team when they exited, so we anticipate a very favorable outcome.

Just a reminder--we will be having our 4<sup>th</sup> of July celebration this weekend, and Friday is a holiday for our staff. If you are planning to visit your loved one this weekend, please contact Carolyn to schedule a "window visit," or a FaceTime/SKYPE visit, by **4pm on Thursday, 7/2** to enable us to provide sufficient staff assistance to facilitate your request. Since this will be a busy weekend, any unscheduled visits may not be accommodated. As usual, please wear your mask, and no contact is permitted with the residents during window visits. Carolyn can be reached at **845-235-8230** or by email at **[cbrazil@tlcn.org](mailto:cbrazil@tlcn.org)**.

Each week I am proud to report on LCC's impressive resident and staff COVID-19 infection rates. Please join me in applauding the "LCC Staff Heroes" that made our infection control survey a success, endure weekly COVID testing, and most importantly, love and care for our residents!

There have been no changes in nursing home visitation restrictions yet, so we all must continue to do our part to remain safe--stay home when not feeling well, get tested, and respect social distancing guidelines. And, most importantly, wear your masks--it's easier to wear a mask than a ventilator! We will get through this!

Any concerns or questions you may have about your loved one can be directed to our Unit Managers, Social Workers, or the Director of Nursing. For more information on the virus, please visit the CDC and/or the NYS Department of Health websites.

Patricia Ludington, RN  
Administrator