

Weekly Update

4-17-2020

To Our Residents and Family Members:

Lutheran Care Center (LCC) wants to assure you that our care team is doing everything they can to protect your loved ones during this difficult time. We are continuing to do our best to combat the spread of COVID-19 by closely monitoring and following the recommendations from the CDC, as well as the NYS Department of Health. We are currently treating four cases of COVID-19 admitted from hospitals, and they are isolating in a section of a designated unit with strictly designated staff. Those residents are showing improvement and hoping for discharge back to the community soon. We continue to take measures to prevent the spread of this disease, and we are pleased to report that, to date, no COVID-19 infections have developed within our facility.

LCC cares for the most vulnerable population, and as such, we must safeguard the health of our residents, patients, and our staff. As you are aware, all visitation to the facility is suspended until further notice. Additional measures that have been implemented to prevent the introduction of COVID-19 and/or to minimize transmission within the facility include:

- All staff and any essential visitors are screened for fever and/or signs of respiratory illness upon entry to the facility;
- All staff must wear a facemask, at all times;
- Strict infection control measures are being followed, including frequent hand washing and use of personal protective equipment (PPE), as needed;
- More frequent cleaning and disinfecting of resident rooms and common areas with special attention to frequently touched surfaces such as doorknobs, handles, toilets, elevator buttons, and electronic equipment; and
- Active resident monitoring each shift for symptoms and/or status changes.

All communal activities remain canceled, and we are adhering to social distancing as often as possible, but we urge you to stay connected to your loved one. Our staff is constantly finding new ways to engage residents, individually and in small groups, and they are available to assist you to coordinate virtual visits via SKYPE, FaceTime, texts, and phone chats. If you would like to arrange a virtual visit or a "Window Visit" with a resident, please contact Carolyn Brazil in Recreation at 845-235-8230, or the Unit Manager to facilitate that.

Lutheran Care center is tremendously grateful to all our staff on the frontlines every day. Pastor Kelly Ray delivers a special devotion twice daily for our residents and staff, and we ask for your continued prayers. Please remember that we are all in this together, so please stay at home so we can stop the spread of COVID-19.

If you have questions or want more information on COVID-19, please visit the CDC and/or the NYS Department of Health websites. Finally, the Dutchess County Helpline is a great resource for individuals that are struggling with this pandemic. They are there to listen and to offer coping strategies and referrals for those who may need a higher level support. You can call or text them at 845-485-9700.

Patricia Ludington, RN
Administrator