COVID-19 UPDATE

9-4-2020

Dear Residents and Family Members:

There were no additional staff persons testing positive for COVID-19 since our last posting earlier this week. The NYS DOH was notified of that result, and as usual, the facility conducted contact tracing to identify any staff or residents who might have been exposed to the employee during the incubation period.

Consequently, due to the current NYS regulations, that result impacts resumption of visitation at LCC for another 28 days from identification. As I informed you in the last update, we are just one of many facilities struggling with this burdensome regulation. Apparently, a number of nursing home providers reached out to one of our Long Term Care Associations for assistance in petitioning the Governor to reconsider this particular obstacle and implement a more reasonable plan. In response to those requests, the Association drafted a letter for families and loved ones of NYS nursing home residents to send to the Governor's office. If you would like to have your voice heard by the Governor and the NYS Department of Health, you can sign the letter and send it electronically to the Governor's office. An abundance of appeals by family members may influence a revision to the regulation as it now stands. A copy of the letter will be posted on this website next week for you to utilize.

I'm again pleased to report that we have had no "COVID positive" results for any resident this week! In addition, we started today off with an unannounced visit from the NYS DOH for a second focused infection control inspection. Included in the inspection were staff observation and interviews, policy and medical record reviews, and PPE inventory checks. No specific infection control concerns were identified when they exited, so we are optimistic for a favorable written report in the coming weeks.

As summer ends, we are in the planning stages of our **Family Fall Festival Parade**--a walking parade with our families circling the building. It will take place on September 24, and we hope to provide cider and doughnuts from local farms for all to enjoy. If you are interested in getting some exercise while your loved ones watch, please RSVP to Carolyn by September 21. Also, please contact Carolyn **at Ext. 231 or 845-235-8231 by 4 p.m. today** to schedule your Window and FaceTime visits for Saturday and Sunday. Due to the holiday, **no window visits will be scheduled on Monday, 9/7.**

If you have any resident-specific questions or concerns, please contact our Director of Nursing, Nurse Managers, or our Social Workers for assistance. For general COVID-19 information, you can visit the Centers for Disease Control or the NYS DOH websites.

Stay well and enjoy the last official weekend of the summer safely!

Patricia Ludington, RN Administrator