

COVID-19 Update

5-8-2020

To Our Residents and Family Members:

Yesterday, the Governor and the New York State Department of Health reported that COVID-19 hospitalizations and ICU admissions trended downward again last week, and the curve is flattening. Lutheran Care Center also had an encouraging week with NO new cases identified at our facility, and to date, NO outbreaks, and NO COVID-19 related deaths. One of the original four patients admitted to us from the hospital has been discharged to home, and two are preparing to be discharged next week. The fourth patient has had two negative test results and has since been transferred to another non-COVID-19 room. Finally, both of our hospitalized residents have returned to the facility and are isolating in our designated COVID-19 section.

We are continuing to implement all of our previously reported infection control interventions to reduce the likelihood of an outbreak at the facility. Everyone entering the facility is screened each shift, and until further notice, visitation will remain suspended. We recognize that this will be particularly disappointing since Sunday, 5/10 is Mother's Day, and it must be celebrated very differently this year as the pandemic impacts our daily lives. Our Mother's Day Menu was posted on Wednesday, as well as the recommended schedule for Window Visits and FaceTime encounters. We are anticipating a large turnout for both options this year, so if you are planning either, please make your arrangements with us today. In addition to some "resident-favorite" activities we have planned, each of our ladies will receive a gift bag to brighten her special day. For the duration of our visitation restrictions, LCC will continue to encourage family and friends to conduct Window Visits with loved ones. However, we strongly request that the screens not be removed as one or two have sustained damage in recent weeks. We have taken screens out of 2 windows located on either side of our front entrance for our Mother's Day visits. The screens will remain in place in all other windows. We appreciate your understanding and cooperation.

Therapeutic Recreation's Carolyn Brazil will be coordinating all Mother's Day "Visits" on Sunday, and she can be reached at 845-235-8230. Again, please call her today to arrange a mutually convenient time for your opportunity to celebrate with your loved one while maintaining "social distancing." To stay connected to our residents on a daily basis via phone calls, SKYPE, and FaceTime, you can also contact your Unit Manager for assistance.

As you may be aware, 2020 has been designated "Year of the Nurse," and this week we are celebrating National Nurses Week! A little history—in 1982, a congressional resolution designated the 6th of May as National Recognition Day for Nurses. In 1990, the American Nurse Association expanded the recognition to create a "National Nurses Week!" In honor of Nurses' Week, and this year more than ever, LCC wants to recognize all our dedicated nursing staff, including our RN's, LPN's, CNA's, and our Administrative Nursing Staff!! The compassion and caring that they provide each and every day to our

patients and residents is truly appreciated, and for their ongoing courage and dedication, we are proud to honor our own "Health Care Heroes."

These updates are provided to you weekly, but we will advise you of any significant facility changes as often as necessary. We encourage you to contact your Unit Manager, Social Worker, or the Director of Nursing for clinical updates, and/or for any resident concerns you may have as they arise. And, for additional information on the virus, we recommend that you visit the CDC and/or the NYS Department of Health websites.

Wishing everyone a safe and Happy Mother's Day!! Be well--Stay home!

Patricia Ludington, RN
Administrator