



Episcopal Retirement Services

September 16, 2020

Dear Residents and Families,

As you know, we screen all employees upon entering the building. A staff member at Episcopal Church Home was sent home earlier this week because the screening showed that the staff member had a fever, even though they didn't realize it. That staff member was sent for a test, and unfortunately they were confirmed positive for COVID-19. This highlights the importance of screenings. So many times, people are asymptomatic or not aware of their symptoms. The staff member is a non-direct care staff member with minimal contact with residents. The staff member is self-quarantining at home, and the staff who did interact with them have been re-tested. There has also been an occurrence at Marjorie P. Lee, which is defined as three or more residents and/or staff reporting respiratory symptom(s) within a 72-hour period at the same community. Upon evaluation, we have not found a trend within the reported individuals.

I would also like to ask for your help on two important topics today related to visits. First, please make sure you are using the most recent sign-up link when scheduling visits. If you get an error message, you are most likely using an old link. We have saved our letters on our website: [www.episcopalretirement.com](http://www.episcopalretirement.com) for your convenience.

We have finished our prototype for the plexiglass barrier for outdoor visits. As I have shared previously, we are making the structures as a "middle ground." The states and CDC guidelines require us to look at our internal incidence rate and the surrounding communities' rate when offering visits. As you know, all three of our communities have had positive cases in the last week. **Without a structure, we would need to cancel all outdoor visits to be in line with the guidelines.** We are excited to share that the first enclosure is in place at Deupree House. Residents and families have shared that the plexiglass is hard to hear through which was expected, of course. We ask residents and families to bring their cell phones to the visits to better hear each other between the plexiglass. The plexiglass's advantage is that you are seated closer and do not have to wear your masks while seated. Residents who do not have a cell phone will be offered a device to use during the visit. Again, we understand that plexiglass impacts hearing; however, it is a layer of protection we need when due to our current cases and to not cancel in-person visits all together

We have received supplies to build the plexiglass structures for our other visit locations. Our maintenance teams are working diligently to make these structures for Marjorie P. Lee and Deupree Cottages so that we can continue with outdoor visits while the weather is nice. We are also hopeful to begin outdoor visits soon at ECH.

The following is the cumulative reporting for our communities:

<b>COVID-19 Reporting</b>	<b>Episcopal Church Home</b>	<b>Deupree House &amp; Cottages</b>	<b>Marjorie Lee</b>
<b>Residents</b>			
Current residents with confirmed COVID-19	0	0	0
Cumulative residents with confirmed COVID-19	0	0	6
<b>Staff</b>			
Current staff with confirmed COVID-19	1	0	0
Cumulative staff with confirmed COVID-19	4	2	21
<b>3 or more residents or staff with new-onset COVID-19 respiratory symptoms in a 72-hour period.</b>			
Current occurrences	0	0	1
Cumulative occurrences	0	1	7

An occurrence is defined as three or more residents/staff reporting respiratory symptom(s) within a 72-hour period at the same community. Private duty and contracted staff are reported to our residents and families, however, are not included in the cumulative chart above based on reporting guidelines by the city and state.

As shared in previous letters, we continue to follow all CDC guidelines and mitigation practices to reduce the spread of COVID-19.

Please let me know if you have any suggestions or questions.

Sincerely,



Laura Lamb, President and CEO