April 8, 2020

Dear Friends and Families,

I hope this finds you and your families healthy and well. I wanted to provide another quick facility update for Lodge Lane.

We are truly blessed to be working within a state who pulls together their resources, experts and shares with all the healthcare facilities. Hearing from other facilities in other states, they were not afforded the same support through their Division of Public Health or Division on Health Care Quality. This week the Department of Health and Social Services delivered five (5) COVID-19 testing kits to all long term care facilities. These testing kits will provide us the opportunity to quickly test residents / staff who are exhibiting symptoms of the virus without having to send to the hospital. Luckily, we continue to be free of symptoms at this time, but it does provide some peace of mind knowing that we are equipped should we need to respond.

The newest update that we received from our State Health Operations Center was they are advising residents to cover their mouth and nose when staff are in their room and/or they are moving throughout the facility or outside. The surgical masks are not required, but they are suggesting a cloth mask would be sufficient. In this event, we are anticipating needing at least two masks per resident which will be labeled with their names and will need to be laundered with their clothing. Our Memory Care Neighborhood population is questionable as to how compliant they will be with the use of a mask. We will make the attempt, but plan to simply work to keep social distancing.

We would like to send a HUGE thank you to the Dallas Family, who have graciously donated a number of fabric masks already. We are awaiting additional masks which are being made by a few of our talented staff at Jewish Family Services and Kutz Rehab to allow all residents the opportunity to move outside of their apartments in safety. If you would like to make a donation of masks or any of the following unused items, they can be mailed to Lodge Lane Assisted Living & Memory Care 1221 Lodge Lane Wilmington, DE 19809, or if dropping off in person, please leave inside the Lodge Lane vestibule where our air scrubber can sanitize the package.

* All types of unused protective face masks
* Fabric facemasks for resident use
* Protective suits, like use for painting
* Goggles, safety glasses and face shields
* Medical gloves, all sizes
* Hand Sanitizer

Residents and families are having great virtual meetings with the Zoom account. In efforts to resume the socialization between residents we are even testing our tech ability by having the residents and activities participate in virtual activity groups. The first session ran on Tuesday, but with more attempts it may prove to be a winner. Today some of the residents will be joining the Beth Shalom Zoom Seder with Rabbi Beals. Technology certainly isn’t our first language, but I have faith that we will adjust and succeed.

For those family members who might struggle having conversations with their loved one due to dementia, Dr. Natali Edmunds hosts a Careblazers YouTube series that speaks on different topics related to dementia. Check out her latest series on “How to talk on the phone to someone with dementia.” <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tOc0F5bpk3c&feature=youtu.be> to make your conversations more meaningful.

Again, if you would like to schedule a Zoom meeting or even a window visit, please log into our Sign Up Genius: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040845A8AE2DA5FD0-lodge>

Remember when scheduling:

* Unfortunately we are not able to provide a reminder call or email prior to your meeting, and Zoom doesn’t actually “call” you when the meeting is open. We suggest that once you select a time slot, that you enter a reminder alert into your phone so you log in at the time of your appointment.
* We will post the next two days of available meeting times by 9pm daily. This will help us manage our schedules and create less confusion for everyone.
* In order to schedule your call time, click the **sign up button** to the right of your time preference
* Scroll to the bottom and click “Submit and Sign Up”
* In the **Comment Section** type only your loved one’s apartment number to identify the resident.
* If this is for a window visit, please indicate in the comment section.
* *A guests join your call from other devices*, please type their first name and last initial in the comment section as well – we will need to know how many participants so we can allow them access to your meeting.
* Enter **your** **first name** and **last *initial***, your email and a phone number so we can call if we are experiencing issues
* Finally click **Sign Up Now**

It’s free for you to join a meeting on Zoom. Zoom allows for both audio and video. If you have a device - computer, tablet or phone - that has a camera and microphone, you will be able to participate with both. The trick, is making sure that you turn both options to ON during the call. Here’s how to connect:

* Go to: <https://zoom.us/join>
* Go to **Join** on the top bar, enter our meeting ID #: **601 902 4560** the click JOIN MEETING
* If you are prompted for a Password: **477507**
* A dialog box will appear and prompt you to “OPEN ZOOM” Click Open within the dialog box
* You will receive a message to wait until the host starts the meeting
* If you enter before the start of your call, you will be placed in the “waiting room” until your meeting time begins
* For those who are having multiple people join the meeting, each participant will follow the same steps and use the same Meeting ID#. The staff member will have to accept each participant as they join.

Chag sameach – Happy Passover and Happy Easter, everyone.

Stay well.

**We Stay at Work for You and Your Loved Ones, Please Stay Home for Us!**

**Wash your hands, Wash your hands, Wash your hands**

**#flattenthecurve**

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