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Indiana, Pa. 15701
724-349-5300

May 29, 2020

Dear Residents, Families, and Caregivers,

Previously, we updated you on the new guidance and format released by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) regarding how we notify you about COVID-19. This guidance was effective May 8, with specific requirements related to reporting the total number of active cases of residents in the building, active staff cases, and presence of three or more combined resident and staff with respiratory symptoms in the past 72-hours on that date.

This week, the other part of the CMS regulation went into effect and we will begin reporting through the National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN). This information will eventually be made available to the public.

CMS requires this data to begin on May 1, the regulatory start date for reporting in that system. We will be submitting and updating the required information for the report (see below) not less than weekly.

NHSN (National Healthcare Safety Network)
Resident Impact (May 8 – June 5, 2020)

Number of cases	
0	ADMISSIONS: Residents admitted or readmitted who were previously hospitalized and treated for COVID-19
0	CONFIRMED: Residents with new laboratory positive COVID-19
0	SUSPECTED: Residents with new suspected COVID-19
0	TOTAL DEATHS: Residents who died in the facility or another location
0	COVID-19 DEATHS: Residents with suspected or laboratory positive COVID-19 who died in the facility or another location.

This past week, the Department of Health began listing nursing homes that have reported positive COVID-19 cases for staff and residents and deaths, on their website. As you navigate and locate Beacon Ridge, you will see that there are 0 employees, * residents and 0 deaths. If an asterisk (*) is shown that signifies that the count is less than five and those were redacted by the Department of Health “for privacy purposes”. Facilities reporting zero cases were not shown in the report.

We quickly realized that the released data was inaccurate, with many errors and discrepancies. We are working with the PA Department of Health and have requested that the inaccurate data be corrected and posted to reflect accurate information. As you can imagine, this presents a serious challenge for facilities across the Commonwealth.

From the date of our last report on 5/28/20, there have been **0** resident confirmed and **0** new staff positive reports. In addition, we have had 0 new clusters of respiratory conditions last week for residents and 0 new clusters of respiratory symptoms for staff this week.

As of May 15, our cumulative total number of COVID-19 positive residents was 0 and 0 COVID positive related deaths. We currently have 0 COVID positive residents in our community. We have had 1 staff members confirmed positive. The staff member was not employed at the time they were tested and is no longer employed at the facility.

Many of you may have heard in the news, reports regarding testing of all staff and residents that reside in Senior Living communities. We are following this closely and are awaiting final guidance and direction from the PA Department of Health. This is not a requirement for all facilities at this time, however it likely will play a part in the reopening of facilities for visitation. There are many challenges and barriers at the current time and we continue to work through these challenges.

We know that you are anxious to see your loved one and resume to normal visitation. We know this has been a stressful time for you and your family and we are working to allow modified outside visitation in the immediate future. We continue to update our website and social media pages with pertinent updates, mitigation strategies and resident activities. Please follow these pages for the most up to date information.

Indiana area has moved to the green phase today. The Department of Health released guidance that visiting restrictions remain in place to protect residents in skilled nursing care facilities despite the county moving into the green phase.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at 724-349-5300.

In Good Health,

Leah McAndrews, MSW/NHA

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