



GOODWIN HOUSE

May 14, 2020

Dear GHBC Residents –

Since March, you have stayed the course to help keep our communities safe. Even when it meant significant changes in your daily routines, you supported the cause and adopted the infection protocols needed to protect you and our staff. Thank you.

Today, I am writing to provide an update on our **Safe Path Forward** plan. **Safe Path Forward** is the title of our working plan to begin easing infection precaution protocols put in place to keep residents and staff safe from COVID-19. Here are the actions we've been taking to help us safely resume aspects of our daily lives:

- 1. Developed a testing program to test all residents and staff and incorporate ongoing testing into our safety efforts.** This testing program begins with a baseline test of all residents, staff and essential contractors and, importantly, it will include an ongoing testing program for staff, residents that experience symptoms and ultimately, visitors. The field of senior living is moving in the direction of regular health security screening, and eventually, most if not all, organizations will undertake ongoing testing. Goodwin House is grateful to be a leader in this effort so we can better protect you.
 - GHBC began testing residents last Friday. Residents in the Crossroads and Pointe are being tested this week, and then we will test residents in health care and assisted living. Staff also are being tested in a phased plan.
 - As we have thus far, we will engage in prompt follow up when we receive the results, undertake contact tracing for positive cases and ensure that any residents with COVID-19 receive the support they need.
- 2. Sought input from the Resident Council on the issues of most importance to residents, including quality of life and safety.** Here are some of the key themes reported back to management from the Council:
 - Sustain rigorous compliance with infection precautions – hand hygiene, social distancing, mask wearing in common areas and no family visitations outside; reinforce that residents sitting too close in common areas and gathering in residents' apartments puts the rest of us at risk

*We are committed to keeping you, residents and staff healthy.
Please join us in our efforts to keep our community infection-free.*



- Err on the side of being conservative when it comes to re-opening; we are all a vulnerable population
- Resume podiatrist/specialty health professional visits and re-open salon
- Re-introduce family visitations with safeguards in place
- Add more programming to channel 2 to benefit residents without computers and increase the level of sophistication of the activities
- Stock greater variety of groceries in the Market Place
- Review protocol for proceeding with medical appointments

3. Began developing the Phases for the Safe Path Forward plan. **Safe Path Forward** is constructed in phases that are dynamic and elastic. As circumstances evolve and indicators change, we will move forward into phases and continue easing our protocols, or, re-introduce protocols. If conditions improve, we can continue to ease restrictions. If conditions decline or the risk of COVID-19 increases, we will re-introduce restrictions.

- The phases are based on public health indicators and Goodwin House indicators. These indicators provide the benchmark we need to be able to safely ease restrictions and resume aspects of community life.

So about now you are asking – “When? When will prior daily routines resume?”

We are targeting the week after Memorial Day to move into Phase 1 to resume appointments with specialty providers such as the podiatrist, and to resume the dining buffet and take-out service in place prior to implementing meal delivery. Limited outside dining with social distancing also will be phased in. We are taking the steps to prepare for these activities to resume, and will provide more details next week. A key indicator for our ability to resume these activities will be the results of upcoming resident and staff testing.

Many of you are understandably eager for family visitations. The **Safe Path Forward** working group has prioritized visitations and is exploring different options that will allow visitations without introducing COVID-19 to our communities. That is a risk that we must fully address to ensure safe visitations. I will keep you posted on our progress.

Thank you for your support of our efforts to keep residents and staff safe, to maintain a sense of humor through it all and to set the course for a safe and vibrant future.

Gratefully,
Justin Carwile, Executive Director

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