

# Infection Precaution Update

## December 18, 2020



### Update on Goodwin House COVID-19 Cases as of Friday, December 18:

GHA	GHBC
<b>Residents:</b> 9 cases	<b>Residents:</b> 14 cases
<b>Staff:</b> 9 cases, 7 pending test results to return to work	<b>Staff:</b> 13 cases, 7 pending test results to return to work

### Updates on the Vaccine

We know you are eager to learn more about when the COVID-19 vaccine will be available to residents and staff. Since we first shared vaccine information with you last week, we have received more details, though many are still outstanding.

We are always committed to transparency, so we are sharing what we know as of today. Please be patient with us as we are not in the driver's seat; it is the Virginia Department of Health (VDH), along with CVS who will administer the vaccine, and they determine the plan and schedules for our vaccinations.

We will update you as we continue to learn more. At any time, please feel free to send your questions about the vaccine to [covidquestions@goodwinhouse.org](mailto:covidquestions@goodwinhouse.org) and we will reply as soon as possible. We also plan to publish an expanded Q&A next week once we learn further details.



***"I'm getting the COVID-19 vaccine because of the strong scientific evidence for effectiveness it shows among diverse populations (age, race, gender, and those with comorbidities). I also want to protect the lives and wellbeing of my family, patients, colleagues and community. I've now received the vaccine and it was painless!"***

*- Dr. Mariatu Koroma-Nelson (left), Goodwin House Medical Director, receiving the COVID-19 vaccine Thursday, Dec. 17 at the Virginia Hospital Center*

## Upcoming Vaccine Clinics

We learned that we will receive the Pfizer/BioNTech vaccine for the initial clinics at GHA and GHBC, not the Moderna vaccine as we had initially been informed. Here are some background facts on the Pfizer vaccine trial:

- No one who received the vaccine developed severe COVID disease or died.
- The Pfizer vaccine does not contain an active strain of the coronavirus.
- 30% of the participants in the Pfizer trial were racially diverse, including Black people and Latino people.
- The Pfizer vaccine achieved 95% protection from having a COVID-19 infection; this protection percentage held for people of different ethnicities, races and ages.



### Upcoming GHA Vaccine Clinics:

The first two COVID-19 vaccine clinics at GHA will take place on Dec. 29 and Jan. 19. VDH has indicated that **only residents and staff of the Health Care Center** will be vaccinated at these clinics. We await information on when residents in other levels of living and other staff will be able to be vaccinated.

### Upcoming GHBC Vaccine Clinics:

The first two COVID-19 vaccine clinics at GHBC will take place on Dec. 30 and Jan. 20. VDH has indicated that **only residents and staff of the Health Care Center** will be vaccinated at these clinics. We await information on when residents in other levels of living and other staff will be able to be vaccinated.

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



**Infection Precaution**

## COVID-19 Protocol Updates

We are grateful to residents for your ongoing support of our infection precaution protocols. We know that the stricter protocols implemented these last few weeks are difficult to experience during the holiday season. They are implemented out of an abundance of caution for your safety and health.

The Infection Precaution and Planning team met this morning and made a few adjustments to the protocols. These adjustments take into account risk factors and resident quality of life. As a reminder, all residents who leave campus should check in at the screening desk upon their return.

**Curbside Pickup for groceries, and medications:** residents who drive off campus for these activities and do not incur face to face exposure with others will not be required to quarantine upon returning to campus.

**Ongoing medical appointments:** residents who drive off campus or use Goodwin House-provided transportation to attend ongoing medical appointments will not incur a quarantine but will be added to a more frequent testing cycle. These types of appointments include blood transfusions, dialysis, chemotherapy and similar treatments. If residents use a cab or Uber, they will be required to self-isolate for seven days. If you are required to have ongoing, essential appointments of this nature, GHA residents should contact Cathy Farmer at 703.824.1157 and GHBC residents should contact Karen Doyle at 703.578.7260.

**Non-essential medical appointments:** residents who drive off campus or use Goodwin House-provided transportation for a non-essential medical appointment will be required to self-isolate for five days. If residents use a cab or Uber for non-essential medical appointments, they will be required to self-isolate for seven days.

These are the only updates to the protocols at this time.

## GHA Exhibition Featured in Local News

GHA's latest art exhibition *Memory: A Participatory Project* recently featured on local news outlet The Zebra. Residents and staff of Goodwin House Alexandria contributed stories, photos and artwork based on four prompts— My Childhood, Things I Learned From Grandparents, The Holidays, and My First Home. Read the Zebra's article about the exhibit:

<http://bit.ly/zebra-gha-memory-art>

