

November 9, 2020

Dear Cannondale Campus Resident, Family, Friend or Community Partner,

Using data effective today, the Connecticut COVID-19 positivity rate is 3.7% and hospitalizations for the virus continue to rise with a current rate of 496 – a 1 week increase of 156 individuals. Illness from COVID -19 has been on the rise since late September and The Connecticut Department of Public Health (DPH) continues to advise senior care facilities (as well as seniors at home) state-wide to maintain and increased state of infection control vigilance.

We remain most fortunate at The Greens at Cannondale, and throughout our campus, to have zero symptomatic nor positive (tested) residents as of this writing. Once again, a staff member has tested positive this week constituting the third consecutive week with a low risk exposure from staff. For clarity, low risk exposures are circumstances where a potentially positive staff member was in the building (masked) but did not have close contact with a resident. As a reminder, our team is screened for COVID-related symptoms and other risk factors each time they enter the building. Staff who develop symptoms while at work are urged to go home and seek testing or medical treatment. It is worth noting that The Greens remains committed to paying all employees excluded from the workplace related to COVID-19 whether or not they test positive. I believe that this promotes a culture whereby staff come forward with even minor symptoms - an important component of good infection control.

Although we have not had a resident suffer from COVID-19 since April 13<sup>th</sup>, increases in staff cases and among neighboring areas calls for ongoing weekly staff tests and a continued suspension of indoor visitation. Compassionate care and end-of-life visitation are allowed with approval from me or the Director of Wellness. All families may still visit at the Greens outside but are required to wear a mask at all times. Your ongoing patience with

these infection control measures is very much appreciated. We will also be testing residents based on risk factors and symptoms. A member of our wellness team will be in touch with you if testing is recommended for your loved one. We remain very aware of the negative effects of infection control measures and will relax them as soon as conditions allow. In the meantime, we are making current plans for a heated outdoor area for visitation – details coming soon.

As you have likely heard from today's news, both Pfizer and BioNTech have demonstrated a 90 percent efficacy rate for their COVID-19 vaccines. This is excellent news and will likely be followed by preliminary FDA approval in late 2020. Seniors living in Nursing Homes and Assisted Living Communities, as well as their staff, remain the first group in line to be offered the vaccine. We have already aligned with a major pharmacy and are now making plans for mass receiving, storing and administration of COVID-19 vaccine.

Please also remember to take good care of yourself during this trying time and know that we will get through this Pandemic together. Our infection control measures and everyday actions that you can take during the Pandemic are summarized below, as well as, information to participate in FaceTime sessions and our weekly Zoom informational sessions.

Very Truly Yours,

Ronald V Bucci

Senior Executive Director