

# ATTENTION: ALL RESIDENTS, FAMILY MEMBERS AND TEAM MEMBERS

# **IMPORTANT – 11/13/2020 COVID-19 UPDATE** – please read this in its entirety.

In accordance with shared recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), the Pennsylvania Department of Health (PA DOH) and others, St. Paul's is in the process of administering our weekly widespread team member and resident COVID-19 testing.

### VILLAS

We continue to await test results for Villas team members and residents from our samples collected earlier this week. As reported to you yesterday, we were notified of a positive resident and positive team members already. We will share the status of the full results when they become available.

Based on our investigation of potential exposures, as defined by guidance provided by PA DOH and CMS, we have chosen to act with abundance caution by establishing Yellow Zones in all of our neighborhoods. Yellow Zone Guidelines are explained below.

We have also designated one neighborhood, a neighborhood that prior to this event did not have any residents residing on it, as a Red Zone (Orchards A) for residents who have tested positive for Covid-19. In that neighborhood we have dedicated team members who are only working in that Red Zone. These team members have been instructed to utilize a different entrance to the building, do not leave the neighborhood and do not have any contact with other residents or other team members during their shifts. In addition, and in the event of staffing challenges, it is important to note that guidance from CMS and PA DOH permits team members who test positive to care for residents who have also tested positive and are residing in a Red Zone as the risk of transmission to and from is no longer a consideration. Red Zones follow similar protocols to Yellow Zones, but include more stringent infection control procedures.

#### **HERITAGE AND RIDGEWOOD**

Again, we continue to await test results for residents and team members. At this point, none of the results received have been positive. We did report to you yesterday that we had a third-party healthcare worker that provides services in both buildings test positive. Based on this potential exposure, both the Ridgewood and the Heritage have moved into Yellow Zones (Jones Serenity Circle is Green, but staff are following increased personal protective equipment protocols). Testing of team members and residents will continue on a weekly basis. We will update you again when we have the remainder of our test results for this past week. Yellow Zone Guidelines are explained below.

# **YELLOW ZONE GUIDELINES**

- In person visitation is suspended until further notice, life enrichment is continuing to offer virtual visits.
- Beauty and Barber services are suspended until further notice.
- Residents remain quarantined.
- Group activities are suspended until further notice.
- Enhanced personal protective equipment, such as N95 masks, gowns, face shields, etc., is required for all team members in any designated yellow zone.
- Ongoing team member education is in place to reiterate the proper use of personal protective equipment, navigation between neighborhoods only when necessary, navigation within the building outside of resident areas when necessary, etc.
- We will continue ongoing weekly testing on all residents and team members at least until we have had no new COVID-19 positive cases with staff and residents in 14 days (2 testing cycles). The frequency of ongoing testing after that point will be determined as outlined by CMS guidance.

We continue to consult with PA DOH and others and follow all recommended guidance. As always, the safety of our residents and our team is of utmost importance.

We appreciate your understanding and we will continue to keep you informed with updates and more details as they become available.

If you have any questions regarding this communication or St. Paul's plan of action please contact Tammy Lininger, Administrator at the Villas, Leann McCurdy, Director of Nursing at the Villas, Dianna Jones, Administrator at the Heritage, or Mickie Chapman, Administrator at the Ridgewood.