



April 21, 2020

Dear Residents & Family Members,

All of our of healthcare residents (nursing home/rehab area and assisted living area) as well as virtually all our staff have now been tested for the coronavirus.

Residents who tested positive for the coronavirus have been placed in contiguous rooms that make up one section of Thomas Hall, separated by fire doors from the other side of Thomas Hall. And these residents are also separated from all residents in Stabler Hall. Staff working in this COVID-19 area of Thomas Hall are wearing full personal protective equipment while carefully monitoring each resident for any possible change in condition. Of course, all healthcare staff are wearing some level of personal protective equipment at all times while in the healthcare areas, such as masks.

If your loved one is in this COVID-19 section of Thomas Hall, our healthcare team will keep you informed of any change in condition. We also understand you will call for an update if you do not hear from us frequently enough to ease your mind.

Staff who tested positive were immediately sent home, and will not return until symptom free for fourteen days. Interestingly, none had any symptoms at the time of testing. Each was surprised at the positive result, and thankful we found a way to get them tested so they could better protect their family.

Please note we now have the option of Face Time using Ipad available for those who wish to contact their loved one that way. This is thanks for a grant from Friends Foundation for the Aging.

And we continue with the option of Skype via laptops, as well. This was provided to us via a grant from Kaleidoscope Systems.

Thank you for your continued support and encouragement of our healthcare team. We realize this can be a trying time for all of us. Our five-star healthcare team is a caring, compassion,

competent group who are giving their all to protect the welfare, safety and health of our residents and each other.

All of our staff members continue to follow public health recommendations to reduce the risk of spreading COVID-19. These include strict handwashing procedures, and in many circumstances, wearing facemasks, gowns, and gloves when interacting with residents who are sick. In spite of the shortages that have been well broadcast, our team has been working around the clock to obtain the needed protective equipment as we give our best in protecting both staff and residents.

Some have asked how they can help. If you feel so inclined and would like to contribute to helping our team during this time of the coronavirus, please contact Anne Derby at 301-924-7510 or aderby@friendshouse.com, or go to this link: <http://weblink.donorperfect.com/Giv3>.

We will update our COVID19 section of our website as more information becomes available.

Thank you for your continued patience and understanding. We remain fully committed to the welfare, safety and health of every resident and the caring people who serve them. We continue to work with The Maryland Department of Health, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and local health departments in monitoring the outbreak of the virus, COVID-19. The people most likely to become severely ill from COVID-19 are older adults with underlying medical conditions. Please know we remain on high alert watching carefully for all residents.

Sincerely,

Friends House Management