



May 13, 2020

Dear Residents & Family Members,

We hope each of you had a blessed Mother's Day weekend. It was a joy to see the smiles of residents as many were being wished a Happy Mother's Day. A special Thank You to family members for spreading out your Skype and FaceTime calls between Saturday and Sunday so our staff could more easily manage the calls while also serving the resident needs. We very much appreciate how well you are working with us during these challenging times. Together, we can stand much stronger in dealing with the invisible enemy, aka coronavirus.

Here at Friend's House, we are very pleased with the results we continue to see as we make further progress in containing the virus. Our testing and care protocols have so far shown to be successful in isolating the virus. Our latest results are:

	#Positives	#Deaths	#Returned to Work	#Now Negative
Residents	18	5	N/A	9
Staff	13	0	11	N/A

The CDC recommends staff be quarantined for 10 days with no symptoms before returning to work. Most of our employees have been staying in quarantine for fourteen days without symptoms before returning to work in accordance with their personal Doctor's orders. It is expected staff can more easily communicate whether any symptoms still exist, whereas residents are re-tested to achieve at least 2 negative results at least 24 hours apart before they are considered free of coronavirus.

Again, we have no new positive cases to report; and we have been testing those who present potential symptoms. So hats off to the heroes who work among us for carefully following our protocols, and for also being proactive at the first sign of any potential new outbreak so we can stop it right away.

Please know that our staff are continuing to give their all to provide personalized service and care to your loved one in spite of the extra attire (personal protective equipment) now adorned by our team. Now more than ever, we know how important it is to be by the residents side to fill the greater emotional needs that come from the uncertainty of this virus.

We have been so blessed with our residential/independent living residents helping make masks and gowns for us when supplies were short. Their support of our healthcare residents and staff is uplifting. They have also provided some meals for our team, and drove cars outside the health center to honk their horns for the heroes inside. What a wonderfully, encouraging group of people caring about other people.

Your continued support and encouragement of our team has also been greatly appreciated. We know this is also very tough on you right now, particularly given there have been no visitors in healthcare. Nevertheless, many of you have selflessly shared your appreciation of our staff. So Thank You!

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. As you know, there are well documented shortages, so our team has been very resourceful in obtaining all we can and adjusting as necessary where needed for the safety and welfare of the resident.

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 new information is available.

We appreciate your continued patience and understanding. 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.

Blessings to all,

Friends House Management