



December 15, 2020

Dear Residents & Family Members,

We are committed to keeping you informed of updates and changes in the impact of COVID-19 on our Friends House community. Please see the chart below for our current numbers related to positive COVID-19 cases for both residents and staff. These numbers are reflective from the very start of the pandemic. There has been three additional positive cases since the last update.

One of our positive cases is a staff member who also works at another local healthcare facility. The staff member was tested at their other place of employment in recent days and had a positive result. This person has not worked at Friends House during this time. However, we are obligated to report this in our statistics as is the other facility as well. This is a double reporting in the system of one COVID positive person.

We continue to test staff twice a week. We continue to test residents once per week. Additionally, we screen all staff before they report for their shift and residents are screened daily for symptoms of COVID-19. Immediate action is taken when a positive test result is discovered for staff and residents.

We are following the CDC and state regulations for residents and staff who test positive. Staff members that have tested positive are self-isolating at home for a period of no fewer than 10 days. They are allowed to return to work if at least 10 days have passed since symptoms first appeared; at least 24 hours have passed since their last fever without the use of fever-reducing medications; and symptoms (e.g., cough, shortness of breath) have improved. No one will be allowed back unless these criteria have been met. We have had staff return and residents discharge from our COVID unit.

We have been notified that Friends House will have three scheduled clinics (we have not been given these dates as of yet) at Friends House for the administration of the vaccination. We will not receive a supply of the vaccination; it will be brought and

administered by CVS during these scheduled clinic days at Friends House. We will have to have consent forms completed and copies of insurance cards ready for the CVS team. The vaccination is available at no cost. CVS's administration cost will be charged to each individual's insurance plan.

There will be more to follow about the vaccination. Please check the Friends House website often for updates.

We hope everyone who is able to is enjoying window visits with your loved one. If you would like to schedule a window visit, please call the front desk of Stabler Hall during regular business hours to schedule a time, or feel free to request a Skype or FaceTime call. The number is 301-924-7531. If you would like to schedule a window visit or FaceTime call for a resident who lives in Haviland Hall (Assisted Living), please call 301-924-7518.

The added cost of testing and additional personal protective equipment has placed a heavy burden on communities like Friends House. 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>.

Our latest results since the beginning of COVID-19 are: (As of December 8, 2020)

	#Positives	#Deaths	#Returned to Work	#Became Negative	#Still Positive
Healthcare Residents	29	6	N/A (not applicable)	17	6
Staff	29	0	25	N/A (not applicable)	4

We will update the COVID-19 section of our website as new information is available.

We appreciate your continued support 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 COVID-19 virus.

Please remember that the virus has not gone away so it is still important to remain vigilant and stay healthy. Additionally, the influenza season is upon us, so please consider getting a flu-shot.

Stay Safe,
Friends House Management

