



November 18, 2020

Dear Residents & Family Members,

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. We have had one staff member test positive since the last update.

We will be testing staff weekly, maybe even twice a week for the foreseeable future. Currently, there are 143 nursing facilities in Maryland that are experiencing a COVID-19 outbreak, while just a few days ago 110 facilities in Maryland were experiencing an outbreak. Additionally, we will be testing all residents at least weekly until there are no new staff or resident positive cases for two consecutive weeks.

At this time we will maintain our regular visiting schedule that we currently have on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. However, all visits will be outside visits, regardless of the weather. If the weather is not conducive for a safe outside visit for the residents, we reserve the right convert the visit to a window visit.

This will have to be the routine until this outbreak event has ended. When we do come off of this outbreak, indoor visits will only be allowed to visitors who can show proof of a negative COVID-19 test within 72 hours of the indoor visit.

Families and visitors, it is extremely important to stay away if you are feeling any kind of illness. Many college students or family members may be coming home during this time. Please plan accordingly as we will allow a total of two unique visitors for all scheduled in-person visits with no sharing (time-splitting) of a visit with multiple visitors. Again, only outside visits will be allowed, regardless of weather.

Updates about the development of a COVID-19 vaccination have been in the news lately. We are registered to receive our allotment of doses for both Skilled Nursing

and Assisted Living when they become available. We will let everyone know when they are to be delivered to us.

We hope everyone who is able to is enjoying window visits with your loved one. If you would like to have a window visit on Thanksgiving Day, please call to schedule a time. 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.

Our visiting hours for window visits are 7 days a week, with limited afternoon hours (Friday, Saturday and Sunday) blocked for in-person visits. We ask that you limit your visits to 30 minutes per day so all families may have an opportunity to participate.

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](mailto:aderby@friendshouse.com), or go to this link: <http://weblink.donorperfect.com/Giv3>.

Our latest results since the beginning of COVID-19 are:

	#Positives	#Deaths	#Returned to Work	#Became Negative	#Still Positive
Healthcare Residents	20	6	N/A (not applicable)	14	0
Staff	21	0	20	N/A (not applicable)	1

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