



November 24, 2020

Dear Residents & Family Members,

We are committed to keeping you informed of updates and changes in the impact of COVID-19 on our 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 have been no additional cases since the last update.

We will be testing all residents on the health care units this week and for the foreseeable future. This is part of the directive from the Maryland Department of Health.

As well, from the same directive, all staff will be tested twice a week until at least the end of the calendar year.

At this time, we will maintain our regular Friday, Saturday, and Sunday visiting schedule. However, all visits will be outside visits, regardless of the weather. If the weather is not conducive for residents to safely visit outside, then we reserve the right to convert the visit to a window visit at the scheduled time so that residents may stay safely indoors. This week's visits will be scheduled from 2:00 pm to 5:00 pm. The same guidelines (no food or other items masks on, social distancing), as before are in effect. The visits in December and January will be the same days but will move to 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm in order to have the benefit of sunlight if we have outside visits.

When we go back to indoor visits, they will only be allowed to visitors who can show proof of a negative COVID-19 test within 72 hours of the scheduled indoor visit. Otherwise, visitors will not be allowed in the building.

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 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:

	#Positives	#Deaths	#Returned to Work	#Became Negative	#Still Positive
Healthcare Residents	20	6	N/A (not applicable)	14	0
Staff	24	0	20	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