

March 12, 2020

RE: COVID-19 Update

As you are aware, we are facing a global pandemic of unprecedented proportion due to the COVID-19 (coronavirus) threat. At this time of international public health uncertainty, the health and safety of United Methodist Communities' (UMC) residents, clients, visitors, and associates is our highest priority. We are concerned about potential coronavirus exposures of all of these groups.

At this time, we do not have any cases or known exposures of COVID-19 in our UMC communities. UMC continues to follow the coronavirus response recommendations of the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the New Jersey Department of Health (NJDOH), and the county health departments. To reduce the spread of coronavirus inside and outside of our communities, handwashing, visitor screening and social distancing are key.

Recognizing the dangers this virus poses to our fragile residents and clients, we are now prohibiting visitors from entering our full-service communities. Visitors may only enter these communities as essential for the resident's well-being and care (e.g., hospice and end-of-life situations). This is a precautionary measure to reduce the threat of spreading the coronavirus to our residents. These measures are necessary to protect residents to the greatest of our ability. We are also eliminating visits from outside groups and resident visits outside of the communities as appropriate.

We know you share our deep concerns about the health and well-being of our residents, but also wish to retain contact with your loved ones. Therefore, all UMC communities are working to increase technological capabilities to connect residents with others beyond our walls (including Skype and Facetime).

Please note that even with stringent oversight, our communities could face a coronavirus exposure at any time. This could come from a resident, loved one, associate, vendor, etc. UMC has been preparing for such an exposure by following the recommendations of the CDC, NJDOH, and local county health departments regarding infection control training, supply purchasing, staffing preparedness, and other measures.

Again, at this time of international public health uncertainty, the health and safety our residents, clients, visitors, and associates is our highest priority. Please note that UMC places its latest COVID-19 updates on the "Our COVID-19 Response" link on the UMC website homepage and UMC community Facebook pages. Please do not hesitate to contact Elizabeth Andersen, UMC Corporate Director of Compliance and Risk Management, at EAndersen@umcommunities.org or your community's Executive Director with further questions or concerns. Thank you for your vigilance and cooperation.

Sincerely,



Elizabeth P. Andersen
Corporate Director of Compliance and Risk Management