



June 12, 2020

Dear Family Members of Messiah Lifeways® at Messiah Village Residents,

Thank you for your support and understanding as we've navigated this unexpected and unprecedented crisis together. As you've probably heard, Cumberland County moved into the Green Phase of Pennsylvania's Reopening Plan on Friday, June 12. While not a full return to normal, the loosened mitigation efforts are a welcome change for many of us; however, as has been the case throughout the pandemic, long-term care facilities will be the last to return to our new normal.

The Green Phase does allow for some loosened restrictions to Messiah Village, but we will continue to take a cautious approach to reopening and follow federal and state guidelines to keep residents as safe and healthy as possible.

Test-based Prevention Strategy

In Village Center, we've followed PA Department of Health guidance and employed a test-based prevention strategy to identify any asymptomatic cases and confirm that the virus has not spread to residents. Preliminary test results were very encouraging, identifying only one asymptomatic team member and showing 100% of residents in Enhanced Living and Skilled Nursing negative for COVID-19.

Re-testing is now taking place, targeted to team members and residents who may have come in contact with the COVID-positive individual. No one appears to be showing symptoms at this time, but we will continue to monitor residents closely and continue screening all team members at the start of each shift. This universal testing strategy, along with the encouraging test results, will allow us to move closer towards relaxing additional restrictions.

Reopening Village Center

Based on guidelines from the Department of Health, long-term care facilities (Village Center in our case), are not permitted to open to non-essential visitors until at least 28 days after the county enters the Green Phase. This puts us into mid-July. If our re-testing results are good and our resident case count continues at zero, we will consider a gradual reopening of our nursing and personal care neighborhoods at that time. In the meantime, we continue to encourage you to take advantage of the virtual options to communicate with loved ones. In addition, we are

testing out “connection booths,” which will allow scheduled family visits with loved ones in-person, utilizing a plexiglass divider. More details on that to come.

Reopening Residential Living

As you might expect, Residential Living will experience the most extensive loosening of precautions in the Green Phase. As of June 12, the security checkpoint has been removed, all entrances and exits to campus have been opened back up, and non-essential visitors are now permitted to visit with Residential Living residents in cottages, Village Commons, and Village Square.

If you are planning to visit a loved one in Residential Living on campus, here are a few things to keep in mind:

- Outdoor visits are encouraged and pose the least amount of risk
- Please keep any indoor visits to within your loved one’s personal apartment or cottage, rather than using common spaces
- We ask that you wear a mask and practice social distancing whenever possible throughout your visit

Residential Living residents received extensive details concerning the operations and activities that are resuming in this phase, as well as guidelines to stay safe, on June 11, including information about Wellness, Salons, Dining venues, and gatherings.

Some additional items that you may be interested to note: Adult Day services will resume operation on July 13, and the Messiah Village Church will remain closed through at least July 10, but will continue to pre-record and broadcast services on MVTV.

Thank you again for your understanding, encouragement, and prayers as Messiah Lifeways makes decisions with the safety of your loved ones as a top priority. I hope this cautious approach continues to bring you peace of mind and that you are encouraged by these initial steps forward.

Sincerely,



Curt Stutzman
President & CEO