



July 8, 2020

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

We are thankful for your continued patience and understanding as Messiah Lifeways takes precautions and follows guidance issued by the PA Department of Health (DOH) and the CDC to keep residents as safe and healthy as possible during the COVID-19 pandemic. Thanks in part to those precautions and your cooperation, we can gladly report that no Messiah Village residents have tested positive for the virus, and the few team members who tested positive at an earlier date have all recovered.

As mentioned in my previous letter, we've been restricted from moving forward with any reopening plans in Village Center until at least 28 days past when Cumberland County moved into the Green Phase of PA's reopening plan, which occurred on June 12. We've also been required to meet certain criteria, including conducting universal testing, obtaining adequate supplies, and documenting procedures.

The guidance that's been issued from the DOH and CMS describes a series of "Steps." Currently, we're considered to be in "Step 1" which is the highest level of restrictions. Since we will have met the criteria to move into "Step 2" at the end of this week, we will plan to do so on Monday, July 13.

Here is what we are permitted to allow during Step 2, beginning July 13:

- The Salon at Compass Pointe may reopen under strict infection control procedures and with schedules that prevent opportunities for cross-exposure between neighborhoods and levels of living
- Activities permitted with 10 or fewer residents with social distancing and masks
- Visitation may occur in "neutral zones" by appointment only

I'm sure you are most interested in opportunities to visit your loved ones. What is meant by "neutral zones" is that they must be designated locations either inside or outside the building that are not within a neighborhood or resident living space. Many of you have been taking advantage of the Connection Booths, which have been set up in neutral zones already. Basically, what Step 2 allows is for an additional visitation option - for the visits to take place outdoors, 6 feet apart from one another with masks worn throughout the visit. Outdoor visits pose the least amount of risk, so are encouraged if weather permits. If you'd rather, indoor Connection Booths will still be available, and scheduled visit times will continue to be managed by each neighborhood's social worker.

If all goes well, we will be permitted to move to **Step 3 on July 27**. Step 3 allows for certain high-priority volunteer tasks to resume (ie. transport) and additional activities may be planned for residents if able to maintain social distancing. However, no changes to visitation are permitted in Step 3 to Village Center.

In Residential Living areas, community members may return to campus at a limited capacity. Guidance from DOH and CMS for moving beyond Step 3 has not yet been issued.

I remain hopeful that if Messiah Lifeways continues to maintain the high standards that we are known for in both infection control and resident engagement, we will come out on the other side of this all the better. In the meantime, as COVID-19 continues to impact members of the surrounding community where our team members and family members live and interact, the risk to residents remains high.

We encourage you to continue visiting your loved one through virtual means or through Connection Booth/Neutral Zone appointments. Please feel free to contact the social worker in your loved one's neighborhood to get your next visit scheduled.

Finally, I'd like to invite you to submit questions directly to myself and the Executive Team by sending them to kmurtoff@messiahlifeways.org.

Sincerely,

Curt Stutzman
President & CEO