

# *Friends House Retirement Community Inc.*



August 7, 2020

Dear Residents & Family Members,

We would like to wish each of you a wonderful weekend, and thank you for giving us the opportunity to serve. We consider it an honor and privilege to serve those who came before us and paved the way so that we may have this opportunity to make a positive difference in the lives of those around us.

Below is our latest updated chart for our most current numbers related to positive COVID cases for both residents and staff. We continue to be a leader among senior living communities in keeping covid-19 under control.

All staff who tested positive remained at home in isolation, per the CDC guidelines. They stayed home for at least 10 days and they must be symptom-free the last 24 hours without the assistance of any medications before they could come back to work

All staff are screened when they enter for their shift. Anyone having a fever or symptoms of COVID-19 are sent home.

We will also continue testing staff weekly. One of the challenges with the state mandated program that we are now required to follow that was not a problem when we did our own testing, is the delay in obtaining results. The state mandated program is taking a week to produce results whereas when we did the testing on our own, we were able to get results back within 24 hours or less. As a result, we are constantly sharing the importance of personal responsibility with all who work at Friends House to be sure we individually are doing our very best to stay safe, and therefore, keep our residents safe.

We will be conducting a third round of tests for residents this week. Results will be shared with the resident or responsible party.

We hope everyone is making time for window visits. If you would like to have a window visit, please call the front desk of Stabler Hall during regular business hours to schedule a window visit or feel free to request a Skype or FaceTime call. The number is 301-924-7531.

Our visiting hours are 7 days a week, from 9 am to 6 pm. We ask that you limit your visits to 30 minutes per day so all families may have time to participate.

The added cost burden of all the testing without additional funding, not to mention the time and staff who are pulled away to administer the process 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	20	0	19	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's still important to remain vigilant and stay healthy.

Stay Safe,

Friends House Management