



December 16, 2020

Dear Residents & Family Members,

We are committed to keeping you well informed of updates and changes with the impact of COVID-19 on our Friends House 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 has been one additional positive case since the last update from yesterday.

We continue to test staff twice a week. We continue to test residents once per week. Additionally, we screen all staff before they report for their shift and screen residents daily for symptoms of COVID-19. We quickly act when staff and/or residents test positive test.

We are following the CDC and state regulations for residents and staff who test positive. Staff members who test positive are self-isolating at home for a period of no fewer than 10 days. They can return to work if at least 10 days have passed since symptoms first appeared; at least 24 hours have passed since their last fever without the use of fever-reducing medications; and symptoms (e.g., cough, shortness of breath) have improved. No staff can return unless they meet these criteria. We have had staff recover and return to work. And, we have had residents recover and discharge from our COVID unit.

Vaccine update:

We have been notified that Friends House will have three scheduled clinics (we have not been given these dates as of yet) at Friends House for the administration of the vaccination. We will not directly receive a supply of the vaccination. Rather, CVS pharmacy will bring the vaccine with them and administer it during these scheduled clinic days at Friends House. Residents and staff must complete consent forms including copies of insurance cards in advance of the CVS team clinic. The vaccination is available at no cost. CVS will charge each individual's insurance plan for any clinic or vaccination administrative cost.

More information about the vaccination will follow as we receive it. Please check the Friends House website often for updates.

We hope everyone who is able to is enjoying window visits with your loved one. If you would like to schedule a window visit, 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 Havilland 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: (As of December 15, 2020)

	#Positives	#Deaths	#Returned to Work	#Became Negative	#Still Positive
Healthcare Residents	29	6	N/A (not applicable)	17	6
Staff	30	0	26	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