March 17, 2020

Dear Beatitudes Family,

The health and safety of our community has always been our top priority and we are in an unprecedented and rapidly changing situation with COVID-19. Our emergency preparedness and operations teams are meeting regularly and detailed plans for every area of campus are in place and we are adjusting as new guidance is shared by government entities like the Arizona Department of Health Services and the Center for Disease Control and professional associations like Arizona LeadingAge and LeadingAge National.

Plaza View and Virginia G. Piper Residences have taken additional steps to prevent the spread of the virus into assisted living and early memory. The Center for Disease Control (CDC) along with Arizona Department of Health Services (AZDHS) have issued specific guidelines to ensure social distancing and increase infection control measures.

We are limiting access into Plaza View and the Health Care Center where Virginia G. Piper Residences is located to essential care staff only. The essential care staff are screened before they enter Beatitudes Campus at either the main entrance or the guard gate. We are requesting families to stay home at this time and communicate via telephone or video chat as we will not be able to allow entry unless you/your loved one is experiencing the end of life.

The CDC and AZDHS have mandated no communal dining and no communal activities. Assisted living and early memory residents will now be ordering their meals with staff assistance if necessary and will be served in their rooms, all delivery fees are being waived at this time. The restaurants on campus have temporarily closed and the Bistro will now only be taking delivery orders.

The beauty shops on campus have suspended their services along with the activities on campus. The Life Enrichment team is diligently working on activities that can be done remotely using the community channel and activities that residents can do while in their apartments.

We are constantly reminding everyone to wash their hands often, avoid touching their face; cover their cough or sneeze with a tissue and discard immediately, and to practice “social distancing,” which is six feet of space between individuals. The care staff are monitoring each resident for any symptoms of the virus daily.

What can you do? Now is a great time for phone calls and catching up on your reading. There is a great article on “social distancing” that I am enclosing. It is worth a read. It posits that the only way for us, as a society, to reduce the peak in this outbreak, is to instill some protective measures that “enable us to work together as a community to maintain public health by staying apart”. You have a personal responsibility to your friends, neighbors, and this community, and we have a personal responsibility to you. We take it seriously. This is the safest place you can live, but only if you help us keep it safe. I know you will. So, limit your time around others and ensure you are washing your hands. It is the smart thing to do, even if it’s not fun.
We will continue to transparent during this pandemic and will keep you informed of changes. If you have any questions please feel free to reach out to me at zdelrosario@beatitudescampus.org or 602-433-6145.

I’ll end by saying that we are here for you. We are your community – we are just going to have to figure out how to deliver community differently for a while, and we will, together... but from six feet apart! Thank you for working with us, for understanding, and for being a part of our family. This is not easy, but we are in it together.

Sincerely,

Zeus del Rosario
Director of Assisted Living and Early Memory Support