

April 15, 2020

Dear Families of our Beatitudes Health Care Center Residents:

We know many of you are concerned about the spread of COVID-19 (the new coronavirus) and how it may affect us here at Beatitudes Health Care Center. We have promised to be transparent and to let you know what is happening at Beatitudes Campus. We appreciate the trust you have put in us. We are all in this together, and we will get through this pandemic by working together. Thank you for understanding and being part of the solution.

Ensuring that our residents are cared for in a safe and healthy environment is always our first priority. At the beginning of April, Beatitudes Campus had two independent living residents who tested positive for COVID-19; one resident has fully recovered and now tests negative and the other, who had significant underlying health issues, unfortunately passed away. There have been no residents with positive COVID-19 in the Health Care Center.

With guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and state and local health officials, we have implemented rigorous procedures to reduce the introduction or spread of the virus on campus and in the Health Care Center.

Out of an abundance of caution, we are restricting all visitors onto campus, unless they are medically necessary. We screen everyone, staff and health care personnel included, with temperature checking and symptom screening before they are allowed on campus or in the Health Care Center.

The campus has created an isolation unit on the third floor of the Health Care Center, to be used by residents who are returning from a hospital stay and may have potentially been exposed to COVID-19. These residents will require a 14-day monitoring/isolation period for signs and symptoms of COVID-19. This isolation area will be protected from the general traffic and will have dedicated staff who will only work with those residents. This is being done to help minimize possible exposure should anyone present with positive symptoms.

In addition to the isolation unit in the Health Care Center, we have constructed a designated COVID-19 Unit in the Agelink Building on the east side of Beatitudes Campus. This unit will be used for residents who have been actively treated during a hospital stay for COVID-19 and are stable enough to be released from the hospital, but who will still require additional time with nursing care. If anyone who is in the Isolation Unit would present with COVID-19 symptoms, we would immediately move them to the dedicated unit in Agelink building.

The campus is following the recommendations of the CDC on prevention steps, including following strict handwashing procedures, and in many circumstances, wearing protective equipment like gowns and gloves when interacting with residents who present symptoms. We stay up to date daily with the CDC recommendations as they may continue to change. In addition, we are in close contact with the local and state health departments, and we are following their guidance as well.

A fast-changing, potential crisis such as this demands consistent communication. We are committed to providing you with information, updated regularly. You can access a link dedicated to COVID-19 on the Beatitudes Campus website: <https://beatitudescampus.org/beatitudes-family/>. This website provides updates from our campus and provides you with a list of COVID-19 resources, including links to the CDC and state and local COVID websites. There is also a form to fill in if you would like to receive text and/or email updates from campus. Additionally, we have set up a dedicated email so you can reach us at any time with your comments or concerns at BeWell@BeatitudesCampus.org.

We appreciate your patience and understanding in implementing these areas on our campus. Our goal is to do our best to protect not only the residents within the walls of the Health Care Center but also our Campus. This is a fast-evolving health situation, yet we are committed to finding ways to best support our residents, staff and families at this difficult and ever-changing time. Please do not hesitate to reach out to the resources in this letter and if you have further questions that have not been answered, do not hesitate to call us and we will do our best to supply you with reassurance or further information.

Blessings for health and safety to our residents and families.

Sincerely,

Teresa Borton RN
Beatitudes Campus Health Care Center Administrator