May 8, 2020

Dear Beatitudes Families,

With so many restrictions being lifted in Arizona and across the country this week and the coming weeks, I know many of you are asking when can you visit again? I don’t have a solid answer for you yet. We have been thoughtfully and carefully planning how and when we can “re-open” Beatitudes Campus. We are paying attention to the COVID-19 data, recommendations from the federal government, state government, our professional organization and predictive models of when the next spike will hit Arizona. You have entrusted your loved ones to us, and until we are confident that we can contain the virus and keep staff and residents as safe as possible, we will not be fully re-opening the campus as it was back in February of this year anytime soon. We will, however, “peel back the onion” in a very organized, systematic and safe way over a period of several months. Each phase of re-opening will be carefully considered and monitored before going to the next phase.

You may know that our licensed areas fall under strict state and federal guidelines. The Health Care Center is guided by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services and Assisted Living and Memory Support are guided by the Arizona Department of Health Services. We rely on the regulations of these two agencies to lead us into re-opening and allowing visitation. Right now, these areas are still on lockdown, meaning only essential workers and healthcare providers can enter those buildings. Independent Living is not a “licensed” area, and therefore, we follow the recommendations of federal and state authorities, health professionals and our professional organization.

Last week, I told you that our COVID-19 Unit in the Agelink Building on the east side of the campus would be open on May 4. This COVID-19 Unit is to be used for residents and community members who have been actively treated during a hospital stay for COVID-19 and are stable enough to be released from the hospital but still will require nursing care. We have had to delay that opening because the anticipated supply of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) – 10,000 gowns in particular – has still not arrived, and we will not open until we receive them. We have sourced them, but the supplier is having difficulty in delivery of the order. I will keep you posted on the new opening date.

We have had no active COVID-19 cases among residents or staff since I last wrote to you. So far, we have had only two COVID-19 positive cases for residents in early April; one person recovered and the other with significant underlying issues unfortunately passed away. We are developing a new dashboard for your easy reference of COVID-19 cases at Beatitudes Campus and in our surrounding community, which we will post on our COVID-19 website.
Mother’s Day is often celebrated with family outings and get-togethers and lots of hugs and kisses. But with our COVID-19 restrictions in place, many of your old traditions will have to be postponed. But that doesn’t mean Mother’s Day is canceled! We are offering a Mother’s Day Brunch on Sunday, complete with a carved tenderloin of beef and Mother’s Day cupcake, specially delivered to your loved one’s door – just give the Dining team a call to place your order!

Also, as a special treat for all of our residents, we are asking you to send your Mother’s Day greetings virtually! Our team will be putting all the greetings and celebratory messages on our Community Channel 1-2 late on Sunday afternoon and stream it across campus. We ask that your video be 20 seconds in length, videoed in landscape mode and uploaded by 2:00 pm on Saturday, May 9 at this link: https://bccrew.net/mothers-day-videos. Please be sure to mention your special person’s name or just record a special message for all of our residents.

Thank you for all the notes of appreciation through our BeWell email and through the mail. I share them with our staff and I have heard many people tell us how encouraging and thoughtful these gestures are. So, please reach out to us at BeWell@BeatitudesCampus.org for any questions or comments.

Thank you again for the trust you put in us. We are Beatitudes Strong!

My best,

Michelle Just, President and CEO