

November 11, 2021

Greetings Beatitudes Family:

We are experiencing busy days in Plaza View Assisted Living and the Virginia G. Piper Residences and much is moving positively along as we continue through what we hope are the waning days of the COVID-19 pandemic. Nonetheless, our precautions are still in place and we are grateful for the COVID-19 vaccines that are now available for staff and residents. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and Arizona Department of Health Services (AZDHS) have identified that the residents in settings like our campus continue to be the most vulnerable, so we still are wearing masks, screening each employee and visitor as well as restricting family dining in the Plaza View dining room to residents only. We are closely watching for any changes in guidance from AZDHS and will certainly let you know if there are any for assisted living that change our current protocols.

We do want to let you know that one weekend employee who last worked in the Plaza View dining room Sunday tested positive on Monday. This employee was tested over the weekend and that test was negative for COVID-19. Nonetheless, the employee felt "sniffles" on Monday and did the right thing with getting tested at an off-site location. All other employees in Plaza View tested negative forty-eight (48) hours after any potential exposure, so all is fine in that regard. We also do not have any residents with COVID or exhibiting any symptoms. This employee is currently in quarantine at home. There were two previous cases in the healthcare center where the Virginia G. Piper Residences are located, however, all employees and residents have been tested and two weeks have passed so admissions and visitations are again allowed as of November 12, 2021.

One positive test does not constitute an “outbreak” in assisted living, so our protocols that we have in place will continue as they have for a number of months. We will certainly let you know if anything changes.

To restate the measures that we have in place:

- **Residents must wear masks when outside their rooms.** Even when there is an absence of positive cases, research has shown that people may be carrying the virus and have no symptoms. Masks help prevent spread of the virus. Staff will remind you to put masks on when you leave your room and you can remove your mask when in an assigned outside area.
- **Masks must be worn when going to a necessary medical appointment.** If you need a mask, let a caregiver know or please come see us on the 5<sup>th</sup> floor.
- **Wash your hands or sanitize before leaving your room and after coming back in.** Please also use the alcohol-based hand sanitizer located at the elevator entrance and at the Plaza View entrance before and after going outside. This will help prevent the spread of disease from any unknown contact with bacteria and viruses.

We know it has been a difficult time for all and many folks have become weary of the pandemic and how it has changed our lives. We so appreciate your patience, understanding and cooperation in helping keep our campus healthy. Please let us know if you have any suggestions or questions, and please stay healthy.

Sincerely,

Kathy Deal-Sharp, RN, Director of Assisted Living and Memory Care

