



May 15, 2020

Dear Residents, Families, Friends and other stakeholders,

As you know we are getting new information everyday regarding this virus. The information shared in these status updates could change at any time. Still I am hopeful that WSC is on the other side of their peak.

We have only had 2 new cases of COVID-19 and both of those individuals are asymptomatic. The individuals that tested positive previously and were ill appear to be on the mend and feeling better. Also, all three individuals that were hospitalized have been released; 2 individuals came home to our residences and one went to a rehabilitation facility.

On the staffing side of things, we are also seeing good signs. Many of our staff that were out on leave are returning to work. Additionally, staff have taken advantage of the free worksite and/ DDS pop-up testing sites. If you are interested in testing please check your email for available testing sites.

Finally, the number of homes currently dealing with active positive diagnosis has decreased. A home is considered NOT to be a COVID-positive home once there have been no new positive COVID tests for 1 month. The following homes are no longer considered to be COVID positive:

- Shea Complex and Walnut Rd as of 5/8/20
- Jackson Rd as of 5/18

Upcoming status changes:

- 464 Broadway on 5/24
- 25 Bonair on 5/30
- 116 Broadway 5/06/10

All the above are encouraging trends and we hope that they will continue.

Working with DPH. As many of you know once a person tests positive for COVID-19 WSC reports that to the local DPH and DDS. The local DPH maintains a database and gives guidance on protective practices. In some instances, they have asked for demographic information such as date of birth, address and phone. WSC is planning to give out this information to support the prevention of the spread of COVID-19. After all the information is shared with the DPH, we follow the guidance and follow up with medical providers.

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) update. WSC is still working to ensure that we have all the equipment we need to stay as safe as possible. At this time, we have ample gloves, surgical masks, KN95 masks, hand sanitizer and gowns. We are also seeing more availability of cleaning supplies. We recently received alcohol cleaning wipes and Lysol spray.

Cleaning and disinfecting. In addition to the amazing job our employees do each home is being visited by a professional cleaning company on a regular rotating basis for disinfection treatments. Additionally, once we get word that restrictions are loosening up, we intend to have all the homes deep cleaned.

The new normal. WSC is awaiting word from the state regarding stay home recommendations. While we believe that our office may open beginning of June, we feel that the opening of our Day Program is not within the foreseeable future.

Also, folks should begin to prepare once we reopen our programs for a new work environment and new practices. Many things may remain in place, such as virtual meets and trainings, encounter free deliveries, limitations on large gatherings et. Additionally, new things may be put in place such as temperature check stations, restricted access through the building and doors and closing of common use areas. These are a few examples of changes that we may see. As you can imagine once we receive guidance allowing Day Programs to reopen there will still be a lot of work to do.

Previous letters have included a timeline of all the preventative measures that we have put in place since the lockdown. I have removed those from this update as they have been added to the Risk Mitigation protocol that went out earlier this week.

Thank you very much for everything you are doing to keep our residents and facility staff safe and healthy. We will continue to monitor the situation in our community and keep you informed.

Carolyne Guffey, M.B.A., PHR  
Executive Director  
291 Mystic Ave.  
Medford MA. 02155  
617-629-3562  
guffeyc@wscinc.org