



December 23, 2020

Colleagues, stakeholder and interested parties,

As the year comes to an end, I would like to wish everyone a Happy Holiday. We cannot celebrate in the same ways that we have in years past, but I am hopeful that our sacrifices today will make for a better tomorrow.

COVID update:

Since our last communication on 12/11/20 we had one resident test positive. He was asymptomatic and has completed his 10-day quarantine without incident. In the same home we had one employee test positive, due to exposures outside of WSC, he reports being asymptomatic but is completing quarantine protocols. In another site we have agency VNA report that she tested positive at her other job. The resident she works with remains negative. We are extremely grateful that despite the surge in COVID cases, our employees and individuals remain healthy or are quickly recovering from mild cases of COVID.

Vaccines: We have been told that many of our employees and residents will qualify for the first round of vaccine distributions. We hope to be able to offer vaccine clinics in early 2021. We have been contacted by Walgreens to say they are our Vaccine partner and will be conducting our clinics, but we have no specific information.

Next week we will be issuing a mandatory training for all employees. Once you complete the training, you will be asked if you wish to be put on a waiting list for the vaccine or if you elect not to have the vaccine at this time. This count will help us determine the amount of vaccines to request when the time comes. We will also be speaking with individuals about a waiting list.

Please note, the state has made it clear that the COVID vaccine program is voluntary. The vaccine program is not a requirement of employment and there will be no adverse effects to declining the vaccine. I plan to get the vaccine and urge others to do that same, but I understand if you prefer to wait.

While we are relieved to have been able to contain exposures that have happened in our programs, we are still feeling cautious. WSC is going to continue the hold on in-person visitation until further notice. Eva and the residential team have been working with families on a case-by-case basis. To arrange home visits for the holidays, if appropriate.

Testing: Testing continues, and we are currently in a surveillance testing period 12/10 – 12/23/20. ALL STAFF MUST BE TESTED AT LEAST 1X MONTHLY. I want to commend all our employees on their efforts to get tested. Testing will continue in this way for the foreseeable future. If the COVID rates continue to increase, we may be required to increase staff testing.

Employees can stop by the office during business hours of M- F 9a -4p for COVID testing. If multiple people show up for testing at the same time, you may be asked to wait outside and/or to test in your vehicle. If you work at a site where there has been a possible exposure, you will be asked not to enter the building.

Hero's Holiday Raffle Winners

- Harriet Wilson from Shea 1 - North Face backpack.
- Vathana Soch from Richdale– A 3 piece set of American Tourist luggage
- Daniel Senoga for— Samsung 50 inch flat screen TV
- Miriam Pedro from Osgood – Samsung 50 inch flat screen TV
- Georgette Carroll from 25 Bonair – Bose wireless headphones
- Jen Rosenlund from Day Program – Hyper X Cloud alpha gaming headset
- Unice Okomu from Jackson Rd - \$300 in Target gift cards



Holidays are almost over, and the vaccine is on the way. I hope that we are going to head back to normal soon. In the meantime, ***PLEASE remember to be safe, use PPE the correct way, practice social distancing and wash your hand.***

I am so proud to call all of you colleagues and hope that you have a Happy Holiday Season!

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