



# FAIRMOUNT COVID-19 PREVENTION AND PROTECTION UPDATE

May 1, 2020

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*Dedicated to Faith, Family & Community*

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On April 30, 2020, a recently discharged hospital patient, not previously a resident at Fairmount and currently recuperating in our specialized isolation unit, tested positive for COVID-19. At the time of admission, the hospital was not routinely testing patients prior to discharge to nursing homes. Thus, Fairmount has been isolating all new admissions for at least 14 days. As testing is now more readily available, we are testing residents before admission to health care and prior to discharge from our isolation unit. Since the resident was admitted directly into our specialized isolation unit, this person has had no contact with any other residents. Our specialized negative pressure isolation unit is staffed by dedicated caregivers specially trained in caring for persons with infectious diseases. The Department of Health has been notified and we continue to take every step possible to limit future exposure.

Our team is working tirelessly to do our part in the global effort to prevent and contain COVID-19. Moreover, our trusted and dedicated caregivers continue to demonstrate dignity and compassion, two of our Core Values, to all residents. The safety of our residents, their family, our team members, and our community remains paramount. Jesus said that in this world we will experience trouble but we can have the peace of mind in knowing that God has overcome the world. It is at times like these that we need to put our faith over our fear.

Jerry D. Lile, President/CEO

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## **OTHER ACTIONS RECENTLY TAKEN:**

- We have modified our isolation requirement for admissions and readmissions from area hospitals. Patients discharging from the hospital with two consecutive negative tests will not be required a 14-day isolation period in our secure Dogwood care center.
- Lancaster County area Retirement Community CEOs are collaborating to discuss best practices to the future reopening of retirement communities.

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**STAYING SAFE AS THE STATE OPENS UP:** As the government plans to ease restrictions on staying at home in the near future, we are asking our residents and team members to continue to use caution. Limit your trips into the public, continue to wear your mask, keep safe distances, and sanitize high-touch areas regularly. The virus remains prevalent. While other businesses and industries start to reopen in the coming weeks, because of the vulnerability of their populations, retirement communities will most likely be among the last to remove restrictions.

**NATIONAL NURSES WEEK:** Next week is National Nurses Week (May 6 through May 12) and we plan to celebrate all of our team members in all departments for their tireless efforts to care for our residents. Be on the lookout for some special events. Also, the week of May 10-17 is National Skilled Nursing Care

**SPECIAL THANKS:** Grace High, a neighbor from Farmersville who stitched and donated the masks for our residents, has designed washable gowns for our Dogwood team. She will donate 24 of them to Fairmount.