



May 7, 2020

Dear Lorien Families:

As I advised you in the May 4, 2020 letter, the Maryland Department of Health (MDH) has begun publishing data on COVID-19 cases in nursing homes on its website at <https://coronavirus.maryland.gov/pages/hcf-resources>. The data is reported by county and facility and includes current, open positive cases for all residents and all staff. This information will be updated every Wednesday. Since this information is now available to families on the website, we will now send you once a week Lorien updates on Thursdays at 8 p.m. This is the first weekly update.

Today, we have also received further direction regarding the Governor's order that all Maryland nursing homes and assisted living communities begin COVID-19 universal testing of all residents and all staff. The MDH confirmed that the National Guard will be working with the state in supplying the tests for each facility and that they will be contacting each Lorien building to confirm the delivery and actual testing procedures. As you know, we have already been testing *symptomatic* residents and staff and have found relatively small numbers of positive cases as we have previously reported. **However, the new universal testing requirement will also include individuals who do not have any symptoms at all.** Based on findings reported by Johns Hopkins Medicine researchers, it is expected that from 25 – 50% of asymptomatic individuals will test positive for COVID-19. We do not yet know what universal testing will show at Lorien facilities but want you to know that the number of positive cases will probably rise significantly. We will update you as soon as we know more.

The CDC is also working directly with all of the Lorien buildings to review our policies and procedures, screening criteria, PPE supply, etc., as it relates to Covid-19. Remember, if your loved one has been affected directly by a positive COVID-19 case, you will be contacted. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact our 24-hour Compliance Line by phone at 1-855-859-0809 or visit our website (www.lorienhealth.com).

This weekend is Mother's Day and we understand how difficult it is not to visit with your loved one. Unfortunately, we are still not able to accept flower deliveries, so please do not bring flowers to your facility. Rest assured, we will be celebrating at each location and you can enjoy the festivities by visiting our Facebook page for pictures and videos.

Finally, National Nurses Week kicked off yesterday. Our nurses play a critical role in our lives. Through these trying times, I've watched them find extraordinary strength as they continue to care for our families as if they are their own. Please join me in thanking and honoring our heroes!

Sincerely,
Lou Grimmel, Sr. CEO
Lorien Health Services

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