

December 14, 2020

Dear Lorien Team:

Last week we learned of an initial plan for the COVID-19 vaccine distribution that includes nursing home residents and staff as a top priority for vaccination. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has found the COVID-19 vaccine to be safe and effective and approved the first vaccine last Friday. This is very encouraging news. A COVID-19 vaccine will soon be available to all Lorien staff members. We are moving forward with plans to administer the vaccine and will provide you additional details in the near future. You can expect to see clear signage throughout our buildings with the date that the vaccine will be available.

When we receive the consent from the pharmacy which will be distributing the vaccine, we will contact you and obtain verbal or written consent. **Please note that this vaccination is ONLY available for one date.** If you choose not to receive the vaccination, we have no idea when it might be available again.

**We encourage all staff to give consent to receive the vaccine given the danger COVID-19 poses to them and our residents.** As you know, long term care residents and staff are particularly vulnerable to COVID-19, especially when the virus is spreading in the surrounding community.

**This vaccine has gone through testing and clinical trials to ensure it meets the high safety standards.** The health and safety of our residents and staff is always our top priority, and we are confident in the FDA's determination that this vaccine is safe for use. **The more Lorien residents and staff we get vaccinated, the better we can protect our communities against potential outbreaks and save lives.** The vaccine requires **two doses**. You will need to get both doses to ensure the best results. The second dose will be delivered approximately 21 to 28 days after the first dose. You will find that the potential side effects for the COVID-19 vaccine are similar to the potential side effects of the flu shot but occur more frequently (**see attached fact sheet**). We will continue to take all necessary precautions after the vaccine is administered, including wearing personal protective equipment and conducting regular testing, to ensure the safety of our residents and staff.

Lorien will also be launching our #LorienArmsOut social media campaign. The purpose of this campaign is to help reassure and educate everyone about the safety of the vaccination through the real-life experiences of our team members and residents. There is a light at the end of the tunnel. We are hopeful that the vaccine will be a lifesaving turning point in the fight against COVID-19. Please do not hesitate to reach out to us with any questions. You may also visit [www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines](http://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines) or <https://covidlink.maryland.gov/content/faqs/#faqVP> to learn more about the vaccine.

Sincerely,  
Lou Grimmel, Sr. CEO