

December 23, 2020

Dear Lorien Residents and Families:

This holiday week has been filled with hope as we diligently prepare for our residents and staff to receive the COVID-19 vaccination. Each Lorien building has specific clinic dates beginning today and running through January, 2021. **While these vaccines are not mandatory**, the Center for Disease Control (CDC) strongly encourages vaccination especially for front line health workers. Further, the CDC reports that the vaccine can help save lives of those who are most at risk of dying from COVID-19 in long term care facilities.

The health and safety of our residents and staff, above all, remains our top priority. That is why this update, along with our previous communication, is intended to be informative to residents and their families about our plans to distribute a vaccine that has received U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) as safe and efficacious.

The CDC outlined on Monday the importance of the COVID-19 vaccination for residents of long-term nursing facilities, citing the COVID-19 vaccination will help save the lives of those who are most at risk of dying from COVID-19. The CDC reiterated that the COVID-19 vaccines were tested in clinical trials involving tens of thousands of people to make sure they meet safety standards and protect adults of different races, ethnicities, and ages, including adults over the age of 65, who participated in the clinical trials. There were no serious safety concerns.

The safety of the COVID-19 vaccines is of utmost importance. Before any vaccine can be authorized for use under a EUA, FDA must determine that the vaccine's benefits outweigh possible risks. The CDC and FDA are monitoring vaccine safety closely.

Please do not hesitate to reach out to us with any questions. The following FAQs have been updated and are also helpful:

Maryland.Gov: <https://covidlink.maryland.gov/content/faqs/#faqVP>

CDC: www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines

CDC: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/different-vaccines/Pfizer-BioNTech.html>

We empathize with your ongoing frustrations around the COVID-19 safety restrictions, especially during the holiday season. It is our responsibility to strictly implement all required directives and recommendations from the CDC, as well as state and local health officials. Your patience and cooperation continue to be critical in this journey and we are grateful for your support.

I am optimistic that we will be together again in the New Year. The COVID-19 vaccine is the first promising step and I am looking forward to receiving my vaccination in the next few weeks.

Have a safe and happy holiday!
Lou Grimm, Sr.
CEO, Lorien Health Services