

March 18, 2020

Dear Lorien Residents and Families:

As we navigate COVID-19 together, we want to emphasize that the safety of our residents and staff is our first priority. This is an incredibly challenging, rapidly evolving time; we appreciate your continued patience and support.

Lorien is working closely with the local and state health departments, along with the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), to ensure we remain fully equipped to handle this evolving situation.

Last week, the World Health Organization (WHO) declared COVID-19 a global pandemic. The President urged nursing homes to restrict all medically unnecessary visits, and Governor Hogan has enacted a series of major actions to protect public health and safety and limit the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic in Maryland. He also announced a public health surge to combat this crisis and ensure that Maryland has the capacity and the infrastructure to treat patients.

Several state and federal guidances currently impacting our communities include:

- All senior citizen activities centers are closed until after termination of the state of emergency and the proclamation of the catastrophic health emergency has been rescinded.
- Our facilities must restrict visitation of ALL visitors and non-essential health care personnel, except for in extenuating circumstances (e.g. a resident is at the end of life).
- Communal dining has been cancelled.
- All group activities have been cancelled. Our facilities will be implementing strategies that allow for in-room activities. Individual therapy will still continue.

The CDC also urges to not bring loved ones home unnecessarily in an effort to avoid infection, as germs are likely to flow more freely outside of our facilities than inside. Our staff is trained and remains committed to delivering care for our residents. We are also preparing to handle staffing needs as they arise. In addition, we have directly spoken with the Life Care Center in Kirkland, Washington for their insights during this experience.

Virtual Visits: Please contact us directly if you are having difficulty connecting with your loved one.

For additional information, please visit the [CDC's coronavirus disease information page](#).

We will continue to communicate new developments as they occur. We will get through this together.

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