



June 3, 2021

Dear Residents and Family Members,

Another 6 weeks has gone by and we continue to be COVID Free, since February! Additionally, our local area is finally starting to see some improvement in the statistical numbers. The rate of positive testing has finally decreased to 5% which takes us out of the very high-risk category. Vaccination rates for the county are still only 47% versus 59% state wide. With all of that good news occurring we believe it's time to take a step forward again toward less restriction.

Last month we started indoor visits for independent living residents. **We would like to increase the indoor visitors from two (2) family members at a time to four (4).** Residents/Families will still be required to make an appointment with the front desk, so that a list of visitors and arrival times will be available for the Guard House on a daily basis. Visitors must pass the screening at the Guard House prior to admittance to the campus. Visitors will then proceed directly to the IL building where their family resides, park, be met at the closest door by the resident and directly escorted to the apartment. Outdoor visits are permitted as well. When the time together is over, visitors are asked to exit the apartment, proceed directly to their cars and directly exit the campus. No visitors are to enter the front lobby or any part of the Heritage Center at any time. Visiting hours are 8:00am to 8:00pm daily (while the front desk is open). It is required that masks are worn by visitors at all times outside of the apartment and that socially distancing is maintained. It is recommended that all resident and visitors be fully vaccinated. Sleeping over is still not a good idea at this time until the vaccination rates get higher and we will review this issue again next month.

It's still only independent living at this time because state regulations for Personal Care have not approved in apartment visitation. As the situation improves, we will implement a program for PC as well. For the time being families are still welcome to schedule indoor or outdoor visit with PC residents.

Additionally, with the current course of the virus rates **we think it's time to stop masks wearing on campus. We think social distancing is good to continue and will be required for indoor groups on our campus while in groups larger than 12. All public rooms, i.e., Art Studio, Exercise Studio, Pool, Game Room, Fitness Center, etc. (excluding the Brandywine and Tavern) can return to full capacity and masks are required for groups larger than 12.**

We are continuing to facilitate vaccinations for any resident or staff member wishes to be vaccinated.

The health and safety of all residents and staff working in our community continues to be our top priority. Please know, as we do in all health-related cases, we are working closely together and receiving additional guidance from the LCS Risk Management and Health Services Clinical teams and are following the guidelines from the State Department of Health and the CDC.

We remain committed to communicating with you as transparently and frequently as possible. If further measures for residents or employees become necessary, we will communicate specific directions. We will continue to monitor regional criteria, advice from public health officials, and the health status of our community. We will keep you informed as we continue to monitor the situation, evaluate information, and consider any changes in our precautionary measures.

You are welcome to share this letter with your family members. If you or any family members have questions, please contact me at 484-269-5100 or dwalther@heritagegh.com.

Sincerely,

Douglas Walther
Executive Director