



489 Castle Shannon Blvd. 📍 Pittsburgh, PA 15234

To: Residents and Staff
From: Alvin W. Allison, Jr., President & CEO
Subject: Weekly COVID-19 Update
Date: January 8, 2021

Baptist Homes Society continues our ongoing battle with the COVID-19 virus. Since our last weekly update on December 30, 2020, no personal care residents and one skilled nursing resident on the Baptist Homes campus tested positive for COVID-19. In addition, two skilled nursing, one dining, one housekeeping and one contracted agency staff member have tested positive on the Baptist Homes campus. At Providence Point, no personal care residents and three skilled nursing residents tested positive for COVID-19. One skilled nursing, two personal care dining, two independent living dining and two corporate office staff members also tested positive. We are following state and federal guidelines and requirements for follow up, testing, and retesting.

The skilled nursing, personal care, and memory support residences continue to follow federal and state mandates. Staff and visitors continue to be screened for signs and symptoms of COVID-19 at the time of entering our buildings. Staff and visitors must wear a mask at all times while on our campuses, inside or outside our buildings. All skilled nursing and personal care residents should wear masks at all times except when eating or showering. All packages for healthcare residents are to be left outside our entrances for delivery by our staff.

We are pleased that vaccinations for COVID-19 began on the Baptist Homes campus yesterday, Thursday, January 7. The Providence Point campus vaccination process will begin on Tuesday, January 12. Per the directives of the PA Department of Health, this initial round of vaccinations will **only be for skilled nursing residents and staff.**

We take the health, safety, and security of our residents very seriously. As you know, COVID-19 can have very serious health complications, possibly leading to hospitalization or even death. **We strongly encourage you to NOT take your family member out of Baptist Homes or Providence Point for an outing or visit. Getting together in groups increases the risk to your loved one.**

In order to help to contain the spread of COVID-19 and to keep ourselves, our families, and the residents we serve free from the COVID-19 virus, each of us must be diligent to continue to:

- Wear masks both while at work, as well as outside your home in the community.
- Wear masks appropriately, **ensuring mask covers both nose AND mouth,**
- Practice social distancing of 6 feet or more and avoid gatherings of more than 10 people,
- Continue to observe appropriate cough and sneeze etiquette,
- Continue to wash hands frequently for at least 20 seconds with soap and water, and
- Use hand sanitizer frequently when hand washing is not practicable.

Thank you for your continued understanding, cooperation, and compliance with all of the measures that are in place due to COVID-19.

Please continue to keep Baptist Homes Society, our residents, and our staff in your prayers.