



489 Castle Shannon Blvd. • Pittsburgh, PA 15234

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

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "AWA", is placed to the right of the "From:" line.

As the COVID-19 pandemic continues, Baptist Homes Society remains committed to the fulfillment of our mission. Since our last weekly COVID-19 update on September 30, no residents or staff members on the Providence Point campus have tested positive for COVID-19. On the Baptist Homes campus, we learned that one newly-hired fully-vaccinated asymptomatic staff member who had attended one day of orientation with no resident contact, tested positive for COVID-19.

Per CMS guidelines, unvaccinated staff continue to be tested routinely. Residents and staff will be tested if symptomatic or in the event of a positive case. As mentioned last week, in the event of a positive case in either a resident or staff member, visitation will be permitted under new federal guidelines.

At Providence Point, visitation is open in personal care and memory support and in skilled nursing by appointment. On the Baptist Homes campus, visitation in skilled nursing and personal care is open. Visitors need to be made aware of the positive case and that outbreak testing will occur as required.

The skilled nursing, personal care, and memory support residences continue to follow federal and state mandates. While mask wearing is optional in the community for fully vaccinated individuals, because our communities are congregate care settings, masks still **must be worn** in all skilled nursing, personal care and memory support areas by staff and visitors whether vaccinated or unvaccinated. All residents must wear masks while outside of their rooms. All staff whether vaccinated or unvaccinated must wear masks in independent living areas. Staff and visitors continue to be screened for signs and symptoms of COVID-19 at the time of entering our buildings.

Cases of COVID-19 and the Allegheny County transmission level continue to be high. We discourage outings of residents with their family members. If you take a loved one on an outing, please be very prudent in wearing a mask at all times and avoid crowded venues where the risk of infection may be increased. In order to help to contain the spread of COVID-19, and also to keep ourselves, our families, and the residents we serve free from the COVID-19 virus, each of us must be diligent to:

- Wear masks in high risk areas or in locations where there may be unvaccinated individuals,
- Ensure mask fits snugly and mask covers both nose AND mouth,
- Wear masks and practice physical distancing of 6 feet or more if you are unvaccinated,
- 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.