



November 28, 2020

Dear Residents, Families, Guardians and Friends,

I hope everyone had a safe and enjoyable Thanksgiving. Our COVID outbreak continues as we enter this Holiday Season, so I wanted to provide an update for you. Several residents and staff have tested positive for COVID 19. Most are experiencing no, or very mild, symptoms. Nevertheless, we must continue our ban on visitation, communal dining, and mass activities. The Philadelphia Department of Public Health strongly recommends that residents do not leave the building except for Dialysis or other medical appointments.

We are working very closely with the Regional Health Care Coalition Program (RHCCP) and are partnered with experts from the University of Pennsylvania Healthcare System (UPHS) to mitigate the spread of COVID in the building. Our first step in this process is to pause our acceptance of new admissions and readmissions. The City has a Surge Facility for COVID + Nursing Home Residents who are hospitalized. This would be a temporary placement until such time that they can safely return to their home at PNH.

Please be assured that we continue to follow all Federal, State and Local guidelines related to COVID 19 including Infection Control procedures for hand hygiene, usage of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), testing and isolation. Environmental Services uses cleaning agents approved by the CDC for sanitizing resident areas and high touch surfaces. The frequency of cleaning has been increased to prevent the spread of infection. It is important that you are kept well-informed. Please do not hesitate to call if you have any questions. You can reach the social workers at extension 1120 or contact the Unit Managers/Charge Nurse by calling 215-685-0800 and pressing option 3. To schedule a video call with your loved one, contact Hannibal Via at ext. 1329.

This is not the Holiday letter I wanted to send but 2020 has not been the year that any of us could have anticipated. We are confident that with the help of our RHCCP partners we will turn this around. As you know this fall surge was not unexpected. We are very grateful for the help from the RHCCP. This sort of help was not available during the first surge in March/April of 2020. Having a vaccine on the horizon provides a light at the end of the tunnel. Sending our best wishes to you and yours for a Holiday Season of hope, faith, and health! Please remember that "It is Safer at Home!"

Warm Regards,

Sheri Gifford NHA, L.C.S.W.

Executive Director

Philadelphia Nursing Home

Managed and Operated by Fairmount Long Term Care

2100 West Girard Avenue • Philadelphia, PA 19130 • (215) 685-0800