



Swiss Village, Inc.

CELEBRATE RETIREMENT... ENGAGE LIFE!

MEMO

TO: All Residents, Responsible Parties and Employees

FROM: Rod Mason, President/CEO

RE: Back on Track

DATE: October 21, 2020

And now, back to testing! Our employees were able to finally enjoy ONE week of no testing (and our residents too!). Last week! But alas, Adams County's positivity rate has crept back up above 5% which means all nursing facilities must test their employees weekly! Fortunately for our residents, since we are back to "routine testing" which is not related to any internal positive tests, our residents will not need to be tested this week! But... today is the day for our employees. We will not be able to know immediately the outcome as we have exhausted our supply of Point of Care kits and our orders for replacement are now on backorder! This means that our tests today will need to be shipped out to our backup Laboratory in Kentucky. If all goes well, we should know the results of today's tests by Friday morning! Or so... thinking positive!! (er... negative!). The great news! As of today, we have ***no new employee nor resident active virus cases nor symptoms!*** Tomorrow the Kinder Haus reopens to eagerly awaiting children, parents and teachers, and several employees who were out on "exposure-precautions" quarantine will also return to work! The one employee who contracted the virus while away on vacation will also return to work – and was totally symptom free while away! While we certainly do NOT mind taking every precaution, this is definitely a work-flow interrupter, so it will be good to see our folks back to work, for sure!

Speaking of precautions, have you noticed another change around our hallways? With the CDC now considering the COVID-19 bug to be more airborne than originally thought, the CMS (Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services – the entity that licenses our building and pays for a lot of the care provided) has required "direct care workers" in buildings like Swiss Village to wear face shields, in addition to face masks whenever they are in the process of resident care. We have deployed that requirement here – again, an extra layer of protection! We will do this until we are informed the devices are no longer needed. Granted, the precautions are cumbersome and expensive, but if the results yield the same outcome as we have been experiencing heretofore, then it is all worth it!

What can you do? Please, practice the safe hygienic practices that we have been reiterating over and over and over. It really DOES help! Wear your facemask whenever social distancing is impractical or impossible. Consider the event you might be thinking about attending – is it going to encourage the same practices? Because of where you work, who you visit, who you are – you might want to think twice! We have recently been informed that, right now, the leading cause of spread of this event is from within small gatherings of people who do not mask up. Think about it please! Let's all think about others and let's get through this ***together!***