



April 20, 2021

Dear Residents and Families,

It has been a long run since we had a positive test result for our staff members, but today, we had one staff member test asymptomatic positive. As a result, we have tested all residents today which resulted in NO resident positive tests. We are awaiting PCR test results to verify the employee's rapid results, but we will continue with outbreak testing for 14 days as long as we do not identify any additional positive staff or residents. Our team continues to wear the recommended Personal Protective Equipment as directed by the CDC, CMS and ODH regulatory authorities.

Although we recognize the importance of preventative measures, we also understand the value of family visitation, activities and communal dining. These quality-of-life activities will continue with the additional safety measures we have had in place: social distancing, masking, additional disinfecting and surface cleaning, and hand hygiene. If at any point we have resident positive cases, we will reevaluate these quality-of-life activities and ensure our practices align with the guidance we have been given from our health regulatory agencies. Visitation opportunities may be interrupted in the event of an additional positive cases. Communal living environments will never be a risk-free environment, but we believe our aggressive interventions and conservative measures go a long way for protecting the residents and families that we serve.

We continue to educate and encourage all residents and employees to take the vaccination when they are able. Last week, we were supposed to participate with our pharmacy in the additional vaccination of residents and staff using the Johnson and Johnson's vaccination. Since that vaccine has been put on hold, we are working closely with the Lorain County Public Health Department to come up with an alternative vaccination clinic onsite at Welcome using either the Moderna or Pfizer vaccine.

Again, we appreciate your confidence in our team and we continue to work diligently to provide quality care while balancing quality of life choices. If you have questions or concerns please feel free to reach out at any time at [hfreas@welcomenursinghome.com](mailto:hfreas@welcomenursinghome.com), or 440-775-1491. As always, the links to all prior family letters and our COVID-19 numbers are up to date on our website [www.welcomenursinghome.com](http://www.welcomenursinghome.com).

Stay well,

Heidi J. W. Freas MS OTR/L

Director of Quality Assurance