



June 29, 2020

Good afternoon Resident, Families and Friends:

We are nearly 17 weeks into this COVID-19 crisis, and we are proud to say we are still COVID free. Last week, we celebrated our State Tested Nursing Assistance and recognized them for their outstanding care to our residents and our team. They truly are the backbone of our facility and we are grateful for their dedicated service.

For those of you who are following Governor DeWine and his updates I am sure you are aware that today, he announced he will be releasing guidelines for nursing home visitation. Based on his press release, he used July 20, 2020 as the date facilities will be able to begin outside visitation. Once we have access to the written guidance, we will begin to formulate our plan for **Safe Outside Scheduled Visitation**. There are several factors included in determining *WHEN* outside visits can occur safely. These factors include, but are not limited to: Nursing Home cases both at Welcome and other local facilities, testing availability, PPE accessibility, local COVID-19 positive cases, local Hospital COVID cases, facility staffing, and local Hospital Capacity.

Based on guidance given to Assisted Living and other congregate care environments, the outside visits will be scheduled, all participants will be screened, masks will be required, and social distancing will be strictly enforced. There are some additional mandates for resident care post outside visit that will also be implemented. We will do our best to have a process and procedure in place to accommodate safe visits as soon as we feel it is prudent. I cannot promise you we will be ready or able on July 20, but I hope through all of this, you recognize our decisions have always been made to keep the health and safety at the forefront for our residents, staff, and you our dedicated families.

We will certainly keep you informed as we define and craft this next phase of managing and mitigating this novel virus. Conservative measures may delay our much-anticipated family reunions, but they have proven successful in protecting the health of our residents and our team. Stay diligent in your own health and we look forward to sharing summer days together in the near future.

Stay Well,

Heidi J. W. Freas MS OTR/L

Vice President