



# Living Care

RETIREMENT COMMUNITY

RETIREMENT APARTMENTS: LIVING COURT • LIVING VIEW • GABLE VIEW • VALLEY VIEW • SENIOR VIEW • COOK

July 30, 2020

Dear Residents,

Another week has passed and we are currently COVID free on our campus. As you know, we've had a couple scares in the past couple weeks with staff testing positive to COVID. Each of these staff were immediately re-tested and the new tests came back negative. We have no active resident COVID cases on our campus.

At Living Care, our mission statement states (in summary), "Living Care Retirement Community exists to meet the physical, emotional and spiritual needs of seniors by providing ministry, housing and aging services." As such, even in the midst of this pandemic, we are very cognizant of our mission to not only provide you with housing, but also to help meet your physical, emotional and spiritual needs. As our county slowly moves through different phases towards opening up, we are always looking for ways that we can creatively and safely meet these needs given our community guideline and general wise, safe practices. For example, chaplains' devotionals and chaplains' letters help to meet your spiritual needs. Small fitness classes (which will return soon), fitness flyers for ideas of how to exercise in your apartments and encouraging use of our walking path are ways we work to meet your physical needs. Campus parades, surprise treats delivered to your doors and outdoor entertainment are some of the ways we work to meet your emotional needs.

Going forward, you will start to see slow progression towards lessening campus restrictions for Independent Residents and adding back some of the services and amenities that you love. Let me emphasize that this will be a slow progression and that at any time, if things change on our campus or in our community related to COVID, we may need to scale back again.

I'd also like to acknowledge that each individual resident and their family will have a personal comfort level and have to make some personal decisions regarding when they choose to participate more in the community at large (in Yakima) and activities here on our campus. For instance, even once we start to allow some visitors onto our campus, some families may still choose to use the Chatterbox. Another example, even as some

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residents resume shopping at grocery stores, some may still feel more comfortable avoiding public spaces a while longer. As such, we will have transitions periods where we will offer two options – Chatterbox, or visit with family on the grounds. Grocery bus, or grocery delivery. The ultimate goal of course is to eventually resume operations and amenities as they were prior to the pandemic.

Below are some of the things that already have changed, or are changing:

- Chatterbox is open Monday – Friday
- Salons are open for most services (Living View 1<sup>st</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> floor salons)
- Chaplains Devotionals (5 residents at a time) have resumed
- Next week (8/3), scenic drives (5 residents at a time) resume
- Courtesy car – effective 8/3, the courtesy car will be available Mon-Thur. and is no longer restricted to medical appointments only. If you choose to do your own grocery shopping or another activity off campus, you may schedule the courtesy car for this.
- Fitness classes – we are targeting starting these again the week of 8/10 (still 5 residents at a time). As the new schedules are finalized, you'll receive information on this from our activities department.

Let me address visitors. Our campus is still closed to visitors, other than scheduled visits utilizing the Chatterbox. However, we anticipate loosening our visitor restrictions for Independent Residents sometime in mid-August. (Expect more information to come on this in the next couple of weeks). I want to reiterate my earlier point that each of you and your families will have to decide for yourself when you feel comfortable being around family/friends/others and be respectful of the views of your neighbors who may not yet be comfortable with this. When we first loosen visitor restrictions, this will be for outdoor visits only – not in the individual apartment buildings. This keeps the buildings as a “safe space” where residents do not have to fear encountering someone from the public as they go about their day, such as checking mail and doing laundry. In the meantime, we do encourage you to utilize the Chatterbox to visit with family and friends.

As always, it's a pleasure to serve you and your families,

Eva Lounsbury

Resident Services Director