



# *Living Care*

RETIREMENT COMMUNITY

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

August 4, 2020

Dear Residents,

It has now been 134 days since Gov. Inslee's March 23<sup>rd</sup> "Stay Home, Stay Healthy" proclamation went into effect. According to the Yakima Health District, we are seeing a slowing down of virus spread (based on daily new cases) in Yakima County. While this is promising, this does not mean we are completely out of the woods or that there is no longer a level of risk or danger being out in the community, especially for those in high risk categories, such as all of you and many of our staff.

In anticipation of us soon announcing some more loosening of campus restrictions for our independent residents, I cannot stress enough the importance of seriously considering and discussing with your families what level of risk you personally feel comfortable accepting, and when.

I also cannot emphasize enough the importance of respecting and honoring the wishes of your neighbors who may make a choice that is different from your own, yet still within our campus guidelines. (For instance, some residents may choose to resume shopping in grocery stores, while others may continue to use other means to receive groceries to avoid potential exposure from being in stores around the general public).

On a 10 ½ acre campus, our staff cannot be present at all times to manage every interaction that takes place on our grounds or in our buildings. We need everyone's cooperation and gracious consideration in order to maintain an atmosphere of safety and respect for others.

For example – when we start to allow visits on the grounds, will you choose to do so, or will you choose to continue to utilize the Chatterbox? Part of this consideration should be the level of potential exposure to the coronavirus your visiting loved one has. Do they work in the community? Do they regularly go out into public? Do they always wear a mask when around others? Living Care staff will not know the answer to these questions, but these are some things you should consider and discuss with any potential visitors.

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Also on the topic of visits on the grounds (which have not started yet, but will soon): You may be comfortable with a social distancing visit on the grounds, but not all of your neighbors will be. Are you confident that the visitors you invite will also be respectful of other residents and not approach them, that they will keep significant distance from any other resident other than you unless the resident approaches them of their own free will?

As our campus and the Yakima community as a whole opens up some, each of you and your families will need to carefully assess your comfort level with things such as going grocery shopping, going to a restaurant, going to church, go to a salon, visiting on the grounds, etc.

I also want to emphasize the importance of following good safety and sanitation protocol.

- Each time you come back to your apartment, even if only going to check your mail, please wash your hands thoroughly for at least 20 seconds with soap and water.
- Try not to touch your nose, eyes and mouth unless you absolutely must. If you must, make sure you have washed your hands or used hand sanitizer prior.
- Social distance – stay at least 6 feet away from other people, and if you must be any closer than this, make sure you have a mask on. You will not know what level of risk this other resident/person has chosen to take personally, so you need to protect yourself by keeping distance from others, always wearing a mask when you cannot stay at least 6 feet apart and washing your hands frequently.

While Living Care staff work diligently to keep all our residents safe and make wise decisions about safety and sanitation protocols on our campus, ultimately each and every one of us has a great responsibility to also protect ourselves.

Thank you for taking some time to consider these things now, before we announce our next steps towards safely loosening campus restrictions.

Sincerely,

Eva Lounsbury

Resident Services Director