



April 1, 2021

Since February 2020, our top priority has been the health and safety of our residents and employees. We have worked hard to identify and prioritize ways to protect all who live and work here. The COVID-19 pandemic has changed the way we all interact with each other. While we look forward to returning to a pre-pandemic operation, we have to plan a gradual easing of the protective measures that were put in place. Our current state of operation includes:

Following Infection Control Guidelines

We have implemented all infection control guidelines for senior living as recommended by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), the New York State Department of Health and Suffolk County Department of Health Services. We cooperate with contact tracing and other efforts to safeguard our residents and employees.

Health Screenings

We do daily health screenings for all residents, employees and visitors who are in the building. Residents have their temperature taken and are screened for symptoms twice daily. Employees are required to have the same screening before each shift they work. Any visitors who comes to the building (i.e. family member, lab technician, building inspectors etc.) are also required to undergo the same screening.

Vaccination Update

Most of our residents have been fully vaccinated. Although vaccination is not mandatory, we encourage all of our new residents and employees to get the COVID-19 Vaccination. We can help procure appointments for those residents and employees who want the vaccine.

Use of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

In addition to the supplies and assistance we receive from our partners in the health departments and the Suffolk County Office of Emergency Management, we have made significant investments in PPE to protect our community from the spread of the virus. This investment



includes items such as N95 masks, surgical masks, gloves, face shields, and gowns. Employees and visitors are required to wear masks at all times while in the community.

Educating Employees About Infection Control

Constant reinforcement and training of our employees on the importance of social distancing, wearing masks, washing hands, and other infection control protocol is a cornerstone of our efforts to protect our residents. Visual cues and signs in the community serve as reminders that employees need to take steps to protect themselves from becoming unknowing carriers of the virus, both inside and outside our community.

Increased Sanitation Efforts

Our focus on cleanliness in our community during the COVID-19 crisis has been heightened to include frequent sanitation using EPA-approved cleaning products that are certified to kill the coronavirus, particularly on high-touch surfaces.

Socialization

Maintaining physical health during a pandemic is critical, but so is a focus on mental health. We are providing small group activities such as music and exercise in the gymnasium and the outdoor courtyard, one-on-one visits, walks and video chats with families. Other social and recreational activities will resume as restrictions are lifted.

Moving Toward Reopening

Visitors

Please refer to the Resident Visitation Policy updated on April 1, 2021 found on our website. Additional information can be found at: <https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/home>. Domestic travel restrictions have been lifted in New York State as of April 1, 2021.



New Residents

We have recently welcomed several new residents in a safe, healthy way. Prospective residents who are interested in learning more should call for more information and to schedule an assessment and a tour.

Does it still feel like The Villa?

While we have had to modify the way we deliver our dining, activities, and other services to provide for safe social distancing and reduce the risk of spread, the same great service and care remains. Ever since the pandemic began, we have heard stories about seniors who are still living in their homes who have experienced isolation and difficulty receiving care, groceries, and medications due to stay-at-home orders. Family members who provided that help were stretched thin with new job responsibilities of working from home, children at home, and concerns about being exposed to the virus themselves. The benefit of living at The Villa is that all those necessities are available for you here. Chef prepared meals, housekeeping services, laundry and linen services are available every day. We also provide a helping hand when you need it, care services and regular deliveries of medications, and most importantly, daily activities have all continued throughout this crisis, to keep the residents engaged and stimulate their bodies and minds as much as possible during this crisis. Although we may look and feel a bit different, we are still here each and every day to provide a safe and nurturing environment in unprecedented times.

As always, if there are any question or concerns, please feel free to reach out to us.

Be well,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J Thompson".

Jeffrey Thompson
Executive Director