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LandisCommunities.org

## **Landis Communities Update**

### **October 28, 2020**

The local and national news this week has included stories of how isolation among older adults is negatively impacting their physical and emotional wellbeing. Many of the calls we receive are from family members concerned about this very issue.

**Healthcare – The Reopening Team** has been working through the guidance from CMS (Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services) and the PA Department of Health regarding visitation. We understand that residents, families, and team members have questions about what types of visits are allowed and under what circumstances. The full guidelines will be shared soon, but here are a few things we hope will help...

The visits that can take place under current guidance fall into two categories: compassionate care and general visits. Compassionate care visits include end of life.

Compassionate care visits are for residents who have been identified by the team as having been negatively impacted mentally, emotionally, or physically due to prolonged isolation. Some examples of situations where supportive care visits might be approved include: residents who previously had a spouse or caregiver help with encouragement to eat or drink; residents who are grieving after the loss of a loved one; residents newly admitted to a household who are struggling with the change in environment; or, residents who used to talk and interact with others but now show signs of emotional distress. Families and team members can refer residents for consideration by contacting the resident's Social Worker.

It is important to note that compassionate care visits must meet a specific resident need. While we understand that families are struggling with lack of contact with their loved ones, unless the resident has a need that meets CMS's compassionate care guidance, compassionate care visits might not be approved. In those cases, general visits are available.

All visitors, regardless of the type, must pass the screening process in order to be allowed to enter and must wear appropriate PPE.

### **Affiliate Updates**

#### **Landis Homes**

It is with sadness we share the loss of a Personal Care resident who had tested positive for COVID-19. Please keep the family and team members who loved and cared for this resident in your prayers.



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Testing this week included 87 Healthcare residents and 85 Personal Care residents as well as 353 team members. We are awaiting all results. One Personal Care team member who was tested over the weekend due to symptoms received a positive result. Along with anyone needing to test for symptoms, regular testing will continue, with the next round November 2-3.

PPE supplies are currently strong with recent shipments of 2000 N95 masks, 600 washable gowns and 1000 face shields. Although the supply chain for critical PPE has improved, the prices are very high. The cost of a case of gloves has doubled and N95 masks are running \$4-6 dollars each. Wearing these masks continually is very difficult for team members but it is required in areas with known cases.

It is extremely important for persons in Residential Living to keep activity logs current. If you are going to the store, to visit someone or to vote, please track where you are going and when.

Within the next week, the questions on the Screening Kiosks will be updated. Everyone using the kiosks should read each question carefully and answer honestly. We must continue to take every precaution for the health of the community.

### **Welsh Mountain Home**

On Sunday, we shared that following Universal Testing, 17 residents and two team members at WMH tested positive for COVID-19. We are grateful for Dr. Leon Kraybill who is providing support to WMH through his role on the Regional Health Coalition. Dr. Kraybill has helped to facilitate the move of the 15 positive residents with mild symptoms to a COVID-19 unit in Brandywine, PA. The two residents with more severe symptoms have been hospitalized. Everyone currently living and working at WMH is being tested again today. Please continue to keep all affected by this fluid situation in your prayers.

### **Landis Adult Day Services**

Last week we reported a pending test for an ADS client. That has come back negative. We are happy to share that last week Landis Adult Day Services had a successful annual monitoring by the Lancaster County Office of Aging. We are privileged to partner with the Office of Aging, Lancaster Behavioral Health and Developmental Services, the Veterans Administration and the three Managed Care Organizations in Pennsylvania to provide services to older adults. Of our 59 current participants, 26 are served through one of these organizations.

### **Landis at Home**

Landis at Home continues to recruit new team members as the demand for home care is very high. We are looking at creative and collaborative ways to recruit new team members to serve within our growing organization.

### **Partner Updates**

#### **Lancaster Downtowners**

Lancaster Downtowners shared a fun evening together for this year's virtual Annual Meeting via Zoom. Over 90 people were present to chat in small "breakout rooms" and then they joined the main presentation. Downtowners and guests heard village updates and then

enjoyed an autobiographical talk from keynote speaker Dr. Leroy Hopkins, who shared about his career, passions, and helpers along the way. Before the evening's event, volunteers delivered appetizers individually packaged by Landis Dining Services along with sponsor swag bags. The event concluded with the closing of the Downtowners annual auction, which raised a record \$7,130 for the organization. Thank you to the Downtowners Board members, Program Committee, and volunteers for a creative and joyful time together.

**Residents, clients and family members may contact Jenny Sheckells** with questions or concerns at [jsheckells@landis.org](mailto:jsheckells@landis.org) or 717.381.3573. You may find other communications and videos on our website: [www.landiscommunities.org/COVID](http://www.landiscommunities.org/COVID)

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