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Landis Communities Update November 25, 2020

Happy Thanksgiving!

Even though this holiday may look very different, we have much to be thankful for! The team members across Landis Communities are most thankful for the care and concern residents, clients and family members have shown for us and for each other. As the number of positive cases is increasing dramatically here and across the country, we encourage you to continue to exercise extreme caution and to stay home as much as possible.

The Pennsylvania Departments of Health, Human Services and Aging have worked together to publish a **Holiday Safety Pledge** for residents of long-term care facilities. It states, *“These departments strongly urge facility residents to not attend any holiday celebrations outside the facility in person because of the higher risk for severe COVID-19 infection for older adults, persons with certain medical conditions, and any person in a long-term care facility.”*

It goes on to ask any persons who still choose to attend an in-person holiday celebration to take a pledge for their own safety and to protect those around them. It also asks hosts of gatherings to take a pledge. We have posted the document on the Landis Communities website for anyone who would like to learn more or utilize the pledge statement.

Last week we shared the updated travel restrictions for the State of Pennsylvania that indicate the previous guidelines for a 14-day quarantine after traveling from “hot spot” states has been replaced with a new order. This order requires **anyone visiting from another state or a PA resident returning to the state, obtain a negative COVID-19 test within 72 hours before entering Pennsylvania. If this test is not obtained, a 14-day quarantine is required.** Please make any out of state family and friends who are thinking of visiting aware of this requirement and perhaps ask them to delay their visit.

Affiliate Updates

Landis Homes

Healthcare & Personal Care – Universal testing continues for residents and team members in care areas. All resident tests obtained last week were negative. The 89 Healthcare and 72 Personal Care resident tests this week are still pending.

Residential Living – To our knowledge, there are currently 18 residents in isolation/quarantine based on testing and/or exposure. Eleven of them have been tested for COVID-19 – five have come back negative, three positive and three are pending. Residential Living team members have been in contact with all 18 of the persons isolating. They have received both verbal and written instructions on quarantining. Staff will continue to make calls to check on their status both physically and emotionally throughout the duration of their isolation.



Cultivating
Life, Together

When residents do test positive, team members are conducting contact tracing and ensuring the resident receives support from family or by other means. We are grateful that so many residents are limiting their movements and contact with other residents. To date, we have not identified any community spread in Residential Living. **Please continue to maintain your Activity Logs.** This has proven to be a very effective and important tool.

Recently when a resident tested positive, the team worked with the resident to identify 50 people (45 residents and 5 team members) who were then called to report a risk of exposure. Thanks to people following protocols for screening, masking and distancing, it was determined that the risk to all these individuals was low. The outcome from this single case could have been much different if not for precautions.

PeoplesBank has announced it will temporarily close the Landis Homes branch beginning November 30. Transportation to the Oregon Pike branch will be provided. Watch WLH for details. The bank noted that the branch will only be open for deposits and receiving cash. The maximum clients at one time will be three and screening and masks are required. To open a CD or Deposit account, residents will need a scheduled appointment.

Welsh Mountain Home

Of the 45 residents of Welsh Mountain Home, 31 have recently tested positive for COVID-19. We are deeply saddened that five of these residents have passed away. Several residents were moved to Brandywine Hall, a skilled nursing facility where they could be more closely monitored. All but three have recovered and returned to WMH. The three remaining at Brandywine are also expected to recover. The five team members who were infected have recovered and returned to work. We continue to work with the regional response health collaboration program to be sure that we are using the latest guidance, have adequate PPE and are continuing to perform weekly testing until we have two consecutive weeks with zero positive residents and team members.

Landis Adult Day Services

Although to our knowledge no team members or clients of Landis Adult Day Services have tested positive, the center closed on Monday, November 23 due to community spread of COVID-19. Regulations state that the once the Lancaster County positivity rate goes above 10% we must close. It was 11.3% last Friday. ADS plans to reopen when the rate is at 10% or below.

The month of November is National Caregivers Month and the theme for this year is Caregiving around the Clock. We in Adult Day Services celebrate those who care for and love the participants who join us at Eden West. We acknowledge that the amount of care you provide is greater when we need to close. The kindness, love and creativity you show is an inspiration to us. This week of Thanksgiving and throughout the year we are thankful for you!

Landis at Home

Three team members have tested positive for COVID-19 and are presently quarantining at home. Contact tracing has been done and those in contact with these caregivers have been notified. We are not aware of any clients who are currently infected with the virus. During this time of Thanksgiving and always, Landis at Home is grateful for all of our team members who continue to serve our clients during this pandemic.

Partner Updates

Pathways Institute for Lifelong Learning®

The Fall 2020 term is underway with Pathways Institute participants having already enjoyed more than 40 classes! Most learners are preferring virtual to in-person classes. Using an online format has been an adjustment for everyone, however, overall attendees have shared positive feedback. In the words of one participant, "it allowed me to comfortably take the course in the safety of my own home." There are several more classes scheduled before the end of the term on topics such as history, wellness, technology, and more. It is not too late to sign up at ThePathwaysInstitute.org.

Again, we want to wish you a safe and Happy Thanksgiving! This graphic with information from the CDC, provides some great suggestions for low risk activities this holiday weekend.

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

CELEBRATING THANKSGIVING DURING COVID-19

LOWER RISK ACTIVITIES	MODERATE RISK ACTIVITIES	HIGHER RISK ACTIVITIES
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Having a small dinner with only people who live in your household• Preparing traditional family recipes for family and neighbors, especially those at higher risk of severe illness from COVID-19, and delivering them in a way that doesn't involve contact with others• Having a virtual dinner and sharing recipes with friends and family• Shopping online rather than in person on the day after Thanksgiving or the next Monday• Watching sports events, parades, and movies from home	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Having a small outdoor dinner with family and friends who live in your community - lower your risk by following CDC's recommendations on hosting gatherings or cook-outs• Visiting pumpkin patches or orchards where people use hand sanitizer before touching pumpkins or picking apples, wearing masks is encouraged or enforced, and people are able to maintain social distancing• Attending a small outdoor sports events with safety precautions in place	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Avoid these higher risk activities to help prevent the spread of the virus that causes COVID-19:<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Going shopping in crowded stores just before, on, or after Thanksgiving• Participating or being a spectator at a crowded race• Attending crowded parades• Attending large indoor gatherings with people from outside of your household• Using alcohol or drugs that may alter judgment and make it more difficult to practice COVID-19 safety measures

Content credit: CDC

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