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## Landis Communities Update November 17, 2021

With Thanksgiving approaching, we wanted to take a moment to express our appreciation to the residents, clients, team members and families who are part of Landis Communities. It continues to be a challenging time in our world, our nation, our county and within our communities. We are grateful that together we strive to live out our mission and guiding values of joy, compassion, integrity, stewardship and community. We come from diverse backgrounds and various points of view, but as we serve, learn and grow together, we believe we will be more resilient and express greater care and compassion for each other.

In the past two weeks, seven new cases of COVID-19 have been reported, all at Landis Homes. One was a vaccinated resident and six were team members. Of the team members, three were unvaccinated, one was partially vaccinated and two were fully vaccinated. One works in Residential Living, two in Personal Care and three in Healthcare. Some disruptions resulted for visitation in PC and HC and both areas underwent widespread outbreak testing. Anyone with significant exposure to these individuals was notified.

In line with the requirements from CMS, Landis Communities is currently in the process of requiring COVID-19 vaccination as a condition of employment. Some staff are seeking medical or religious exemptions, and notification is in process now about those being granted, denied, or requiring more information. Additional vaccination clinics are being conducted prior to the 12/2/21 deadline.

We understand that concern over the vaccine requirement as well as changing situations at home, childcare issues, better pay, and the desire to change careers are all reasons Landis Communities is experiencing a higher than usual turnover rate. However, it is also important to note that we have increased our recruitment efforts, adjusted some pay scales and have been hearing from many new applicants seeking to work at Landis Communities. Our total number of new hires for November is at least 34. We appreciate these capable and committed new team members!

# Affiliate Updates

## Landis Homes

We received updated guidance from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) on Friday, November 12, 2021. The updated guidance allows visitation for all Healthcare residents at all times. Visitors no longer need to schedule visitation. There is no limitation on time or number of visitors; however, visitors must screen in and out, wear a mask, use proper hand hygiene, remain socially distant and visit only in the resident's room. Groups are not allowed to gather in the common areas of Healthcare, including the dining room or living room. Please see the updated visitation guidelines on the Landis Homes website for further details. Visitation guidelines for Personal Care have not changed. When on the Landis Homes campus, please pay attention to new signage and note that questions on the screening kiosks have changed. We continue to monitor the state and federal guidelines that will enable gatherings and ease of movement throughout all areas of Landis Homes. We will share this as soon as possible but for now, please continue to follow the current protocols. One last note, booster shots will be available for RL residents again in 2022.

#### Welsh Mountain Home

WMH has remained free of COVID-19 for 13 months. We pray that we do not have another outbreak and we are grateful that 90% of residents are vaccinated. WMH is excited to share that we are making plans to renovate our building to add 18 bathrooms. This will help with infection control, not only with COVID-19, but with diseases such as flu, rotavirus, and the common cold. When the renovations are finished, no more than two residents will share a bathroom located between their rooms. This will also provide privacy and dignity that residents deserve. WMH is also participating in the ExtraOrdinary Give on November 19.

#### Landis at Home

Landis at Home continues to concentrate efforts on hiring more team members to allow us to serve present clients as well as serve additional clients. We are in the process of making the COVID-19 vaccine a condition of employment, unless a team member has an approved medical or religious exemption. Serving clients with the vast majority of team members vaccinated, will aid in the protection of clients. Those who are granted an exemption will follow additional safety requirements in order to keep clients healthy.

#### Landis Adult Day Services

As we approach the holiday season we are thankful that our center has remained open since March. We continue to follow COVID-19 mitigation of social distancing, wearing masks, sanitation and screening. Because of these precautions, census in the center is limited to 28 instead of over 40. We currently have a 3-4 month waiting list to attend. Due to the continued substantial level of community spread of the virus in Lancaster County we are not allowing outside volunteers or guests. This creates a challenge for programming. Overall, clients are happy to be back! They have enjoyed a regular routine and having time out of their homes.

#### **Steeple View Lofts**

Steeple View Loft residents continue to be safe and have not had any known COVID-19 exposures in the building. They were happy to host an onsite COVID-19 Booster Clinic sponsored by Phoebe Pharmacy in October for their residents, Lancaster Downtowners and Friends LifeCare members.

## Partner Updates

**Pathways Institute for Lifelong Learning**® - The Fall 2021 term at Pathways Institute for Lifelong Learning® is coming to an end. More than 50 courses have already taken place, including 35 in-person courses and 15 virtual. We have been operating under safety guidelines, including reduced enrollment, mask wearing, sanitizing, etc. to ensure the safe environment for lifelong learners. In Spring 2022, we plan to use a similar approach with a combination of virtual and inperson courses, including off-site opportunities and excursions. For anyone interested in supporting Pathways Institute, we will participate in ExtraOrdinary Give – Lancaster County's Largest Day of giving on November 19. Your gift to Pathways Institute will allow adults ages 55 and better to continue learning in ways that enrich the mind and spirit.

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

Wishing everyone a joyous Thanksgiving!

Larry Zook President/CEO Evon Bergey Vice President Operations/COO