



1001 E Oregon Road
Lititz, PA 17543
717.381.3526
LandisCommunities.org

Landis Communities Update

December 1, 2021

We are grateful for the meaningful time of Thanksgiving we experienced last week. As we look now to Christmas, we are in a phase known to many Christians as Advent. This word means “coming” and since the fourth century, this season has helped point toward the celebration of the coming of Jesus in human form and the promise of his return. Often a candle is lit each Sunday in Advent. The first is to symbolize hope and is called the "Prophet's Candle." It reminds believers of how, since the days of the Prophets, people have been waiting in hope for the Messiah. It is wonderful to be reminded of this greater hope during this time of uncertainty.

Many of us are following the news that the OSHA vaccine requirement is delayed and there is an effort to block the CMS requirement. Landis Communities is under the CMS guidance because we accept Medicare and Medicaid funds as part of our healthcare operations. Because of this, we continue to watch this situation closely. However, it is important to note that Landis Communities made the decision to require the COVID-19 vaccine as a condition of employment prior to the CMS announcement. In our continuing efforts to do all we can to keep residents, clients, team members and families safe, we sought counsel of experts and then began moving forward with a four-phase process. Those team members who sought exemptions have been notified – some have been granted, others denied. Thursday, December 2 is another milestone in the process, as it is the date for all current employees to have received their first dose of the COVID-19 vaccine.

As you can imagine, a great deal of work is happening right now as we work through the notification process, evaluate the number of employees who will be leaving and implement next steps for those granted exemptions. We ask for your continued prayers that all we do reflects our guiding values and the commitment we have to the health of everyone throughout Landis Communities.

We are excited to have 40 amazing individuals join our team since November 1! As we seek to fill other open positions, we will look for those who have a desire to serve in a community of Christ like love. Please feel free to share potential job opportunities with those you know – children, grandchildren, friends or church members.

On the Landis Homes campus one vaccinated resident and 11 team members have tested positive for COVID-19 in the past two weeks. Of the team members, four were vaccinated, four were unvaccinated, two were partially vaccinated, and one is unknown (agency nursing assistant). Outbreak testing has occurred as a result of the positive cases but no residents in Healthcare or Personal Care have tested positive.



Cultivating
Life, Together

A trend we are seeing is team members having household contacts testing positive. The current positivity rate in Lancaster County of 16.13% helps to explain this trend. This graph shows the impact of cases at Lancaster General Hospital as of 11/29/21.

Vaccine clinics continue for team members to receive initial doses and booster shots. A booster clinic for Healthcare and Personal Care residents at Landis Homes is also scheduled. Residential Living will again be offered booster shots in the new year.

Written COVID-19 updates will continue every other week. Also, be watching for video updates to resume on a more regular basis. We believe it is very important for

us to maintain open communication and stay connected to all residents, clients, team members and families. As we live and serve together in community, may we continue to pull together and support each other in these challenging yet hopeful times.

Blessings to you for health and peace,

Larry Zook
President/CEO

Evon Bergey
Vice President Operations/COO

P.S. 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

