

## The Williamsport Home

May 21, 2020

Dear Residents, Families, and Caregivers,

We previously updated you on the new guidance and format released by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) regarding how we notify you about COVID-19. This guidance was effective May 8, with specific requirements related to reporting the total number of active cases of residents in the building, active staff cases, and presence of three or more combined resident and staff with respiratory symptoms in the past 72-hours on that date.

Last week, the other part of the CMS regulation went into effect and we began reporting through the National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN).

CMS requires this data to begin on May 1, the regulatory start date for reporting in that system. We will be submitting and updating the required information for the report (see below) not less than weekly.

## NHSN (National Healthcare Safety Network) Resident Impact (May 9-15, 2020)

Number of cases	
0	ADMISSIONS: Residents admitted or readmitted who were previously hospitalized and treated for COVID-19
0	CONFIRMED: Residents with new laboratory positive COVID-19
0	SUSPECTED: Residents with new suspected COVID-19
0	TOTAL DEATHS: Residents who died in the facility or another location
0	COVID-19 DEATHS: Residents with suspected or laboratory positive COVID-19 who died in the
	facility or another location.

Communication can be found via mailed letters, The Williamsport Home Facebook page and <a href="https://www.thewilliamsporthome.com">www.thewilliamsporthome.com</a>. This method of communication will provide the most current numbers, and although we realize letters, Facebook and our webpage does not replace a personal call, you are welcome to reach out to us with any specific questions.

Our mitigation strategies sent to you in prior communications have been added to our website and any changes in our strategy will be updated regularly.

From the date of our last report on **5/15/2020**, there have been **0** resident confirmed and **0** of new staff positive reports. In addition, we have had **0** new clusters of respiratory conditions last week for residents and **0** new clusters of respiratory symptoms for staff this week.

As of May 1, our cumulative total number of COVID-19 positive residents was 0 and 0 COVID positive related deaths. As of today, there are 0 who have recovered. We currently have 0 COVID positive residents in our community. We have had 0 current staff members confirmed positive, 0 of whom have recovered and 0 still not released to work.

Many of you may have heard in the news, reports regarding testing of all staff and residents that reside in Senior Living communities. We are following this closely and are awaiting final guidance and direction from the PA Department of Health. This is not a requirement for all facilities at this time. We will keep you updated as additional information becomes available.

Beginning 5/19/2020 the Department of Health began listing nursing home that have had positive COVID-19 cases. As you navigate and find that The Williamsport Home is listed, you will see that there is \* located under employees, 0 listed for resident and 0 listed for deaths. The \* for staff member refers to the one positive staff member that we identified and notified you about on 4/11/2020.

Your loved ones, parents, grandparents, aunts and uncles, friends and acquaintances are not statistics; they are treasured elders that we are honored to care for day in and day out. This is the most difficult time the country has ever experienced with the restrictions holding us all back from the usual love and support that you provide to your loved one and the care that we provide to our families. It is beyond words to express the heartache that you, friends and families are enduring by not being able to visit to enjoy and cherish the company, fellowship and friendship.

Please know we extend our most sincere gratitude to you and yours as we continue to provide love and attention to those in our care, as we all navigate these unprecedented times. We continue to work on a process that enables safety for residents, staff and family members for outdoor visits. We are very pleased to have gotten calls, emails, messages regarding setting up visits. At this time, we are still navigating through all of the requirements and how to properly do this. As soon as we have a safe process in place, we will be sure to let you know.

We want to thank you for your continued words of kindness and support of The Williamsport Home, which means so much to our entire organization. Thank you for allowing us to care for your loved ones and to continue to be of service to you and your families. If you have any questions please reach out to Sue Hooker, Infection Preventionist, Stephanie Fry, Director of Nursing or myself at 570-323-8781.

Sincerely

Jennifer Cisneros, NHA

Nursing Home Administrator