



To: Residents and Representatives

RE: Returning to Phase 1 at High Plains Retirement Village and Assisted Living

Date: July 16th, 2020

Due to the increase in number of cases of COVID-19 in Kearny County in the last week, the leadership team and Medical Director for Assisted Living and Long Term Care, in conjunction with Kearny County Health Officials, has determined to return to Phase 1 of the Reopening plan. This will start on July 17<sup>th</sup>, 2020. This notification will outline the guidelines for Phase 1. We do realize this can be upsetting and we want everyone to understand that the ultimate goal is to keep our residents safe. We want to prevent what many other aging services organizations in Kansas are currently experiencing with the spread of COVID-19 within their Long Term Care and Assisted Living facilities.

At this time we have no suspected cases of COVID-19 in High Plains Retirement Village or Assisted Living.

Our goal is to evaluate weekly the cases and numbers of person under investigation for COVID-19 in Kearny County to see if we can move back through the phases.

Due to the elevated risk of COVID-19 to the geriatric population, especially to those who live in community care environments, additional criteria for advancing through phases for reopening are considered. This include the following:

1. Review of Local and State factors and/or orders
2. Case status of COVID-19 in Kearny County
3. Case status of COVID-19 in the facility
4. In facility infection control review to ensure adequate prevention of transmission of COVID-19; and
5. A Facility remains in its current stated of highest mitigation and should lag behind the general community's re-opening by at least 14 days.

### **Phase 1**

Visitation is **PROHIBITED**, except in compassionate care situations (end of life) and no children under the age of 12. Visitors in compassionate care situations will be limited to 1-2 visitors at a time.



All visitors permitted to enter will be required to wear a cloth face covering or face mask at all times in the building. All visitors will be required to perform hand hygiene, will have their temperatures taken, and be screened for signs or symptoms of COVID-19. At any time a visitor does not comply or does not pass the screening they will be asked to leave.

Outside visits may continue as long as visitors wear a mask and remain 6 feet apart. At any time a visitor does not comply they will be asked to leave.

Communal dining will continue as long as residents are COVID-19 negative or asymptomatic. They will still have to maintain social distancing but will be able to see each other. Nursing staff is working with Dietary to arrange a dining schedule that will promote social distancing.

Group activities are able to continue for residents who are COVID-19 negative or asymptomatic. Group activities will consist of no more than 5 residents at a time and will follow social distancing guidelines. There will be no outings at this time.

It recommended that non-medically necessary trips outside are avoided and that for medically necessary trips resident must wear a cloth face covering or a face mask.

In Phase 1 we will continue to screen all staff and residents. All staff will continue to wear facemask while at work.

If a new onset of COVID-19 case or if a trend in positive cases increases in Kearny County, the facility may go back to the HIGHEST level of mitigation.

Our ultimate goal at Assisted Living and High Plains Retirement Village is to ensure the safety and well-being of all residents and to prevent the spread of COVID-19 within the care community.

Any questions please do not hesitate to contact us.

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## High Plains Retirement Village

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Sincerely,

Mary Chipley, Director of Nursing

High Plains Retirement Village and Assisted Living