

# Luther Manor Continuing Precautions Related to COVID-19

### June 10, 2020 5:45 pm

Good evening from Luther Manor. Yes, I know it may sound like a broken record, but the safety of our residents and staff remains our top priority and we will continue with our protocols, precautions and daily screening of staff and all Health Care Center and Assisted Living Residents.

Thank you for your support, partnerships and commitment to our residents and staff during this extremely challenging time.

## Shout Outs of Thanks!

• Thank you to our Pastoral Care team for planning and holding the wonderful prayer service yesterday "Luther Manor Cares - Prayers for Unity in a Time of Adversity" and Pastor Steven Tipton for his passionate and inspiring sermon. Several members of the Pastoral Care team participated as did other members of our staff. Leaning into our corporate CARES values of compassion, accountability, respect, everyone matters and service to God, we are resolved to foster a culture that acknowledges the experiences, the challenges and the concerns of ALL who trust us to care.

#### **Campus Update**

• With the rest of the state striving to reopen we are maintaining restrictions, yet we are working on a phased reopening plan for our Independent Living residents. Guidance from CMS, the CDC and Departments of Health will provide direction related to our assisted living and health care center programs when the environment is appropriate.

Phase I in independent living includes resuming services in the Terrace that had been stopped as we increased precautions. Areas we are considering include our beauty parlor, massage services, the in-house First Midwest Bank, small group Life Enrichment Activities and the removal of the 14-day isolation after leaving campus. All of which are areas residents told us they are seeking first. As disciplined as we were in creating heightened precautions, we are taking the same approach to detailing elements of reopening so it is done with safeguards in place and measures to allow for progression of opening or a pullback should the situation warrant. Included in this will be a requirement to mask wearing anytime outside of their apartments, proper hand hygiene, pre-cleanings, post cleanings, social distancing, timed spacing and the use of PPE. We are requiring our contractors to provide guidelines, policies and procedures in advance, so we can make sure their ownership and compliance is met.

The removal of the 14-day isolation includes the mandatory wearing of masks! As we have mentioned multiple times before, the Independent Living residents



are just that, independent. Although they have not been required to follow the same guidelines as our Health Care Center or Assisted Living residents, we have pleaded and they have been urged to follow them. It is our desire to roll out this first phase by the end of June, to test the results and continue developing future phases until we reach our new normal. If an outbreak would occur, we will surely adjust as necessary for the safety and well-being of all residents and our staff.

You may have noticed that lifting visitor prohibitions is not listed in Phase I. Our plan begins with resuming internal activities and eliminating restrictions on off campus activities. It will then expand to bring back even more internal and off campus activities in Phase II. Opening up our campus to visitors is a long way off and would likely include screening and the requirement to wear masks. Of course, this is entirely dependent on how the spread of COVID progresses from here. Wisconsin's cases seem to be slowing, which is reason to be optimistic.

We hope you all appreciate our cautious approach and know that all of these details are based on research, education, best practices and learning from others' mistakes. We will remain diligent and focused on our resident and staff safety.

#### **Campus Happenings**

- This week's department thank you has a bit of a twist. Since mid-March we have had a group of 20 leaders that covered all areas of both campuses we affectionately call the Covid Response Team. Thank you, COVID Response Team!
  - This is the team that took the first 4:30 am shift to start taking staff temperatures
  - They come in for a couple hours over weekends to screen all shifts
  - They continue to work extra hours to screen their coworkers at the start and end of shifts
  - They volunteered for new roles
  - They changed their current jobs
  - They hunted down PPE through their networks
  - They jumped in to help disinfect areas
  - They hung signs
  - They distribute PPE
  - They have remained with the ship, even during rocky times
  - They handed out thank you's
  - They delivered treats and flowers
  - They cover open shifts
  - They worked for weeks straight with no time off
  - They conduct Covid tests
  - They wear masks or PPE until they get nauseous

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- They call residents' families to give updates on their loved ones or staff members that may have had direct contact
- They strive to keep our residents' lives enriched
- They keep the faith
- They share our optimism that together we will overcome this
- They live out our Mission and model our CARES Values!

Here are a couple of older photos of some of these goofballs, but they are our goofballs!







- Interested in hearing more from us?
- Subscribe to receive email updates at <u>COVIDUpdates@LutherManor.org</u>
- Visit our website at <u>www.luthermanor.org</u>
- Follow us on Facebook at LutherManorWI
- Call for daily messages on our COVID-19 Hotline, 414-831-9389