

Garvey Manor and Our Lady of the Alleghenies Residence

Facility Response to COVID-19

April 2, 2020

To Families and Friends of Garvey Manor and Our Lady of the Alleghenies Residents:

During this time of concern related to the COVID-19 virus, please be assured that we are doing all that we can to protect our residents, staff and business partners from exposure.

The protocols we are following are based on guidance we receive from the PA Department of Health (DOH), the Center for Disease Control (CDC), long-term care partners, county and local government, and our own infection control procedures and practices. The recommendations change frequently, so we monitor these avenues daily.

This is a stressful and anxious time for all of us. This letter contains a list of practices we have implemented as required and as prudent. Please continue to be patient and understanding as we navigate this unusual circumstance together.

Resident Care

- Nursing staff are monitoring residents twice daily for changes in condition, vital signs, or the development of unusual symptoms. Social Service staff are monitoring residents for any changing needs. The entire interdisciplinary team collaborates to address residents' specific needs and concerns.
- Residents are reminded to practice social distancing (6 ft) from each other at all times.
- We are no longer accepting items being dropped off for residents for precautionary and protective reasons.
- We have established the ability for residents to video chat with family and receive phone calls directly to their rooms as able.
- Our employees have been creative with resident activities, including "virtual" Bingo, exercise, and other programs on our closed-circuit TV channel. Despite Basket Bingo being postponed, we are using the supplies so that residents have their own Bingo cards and daubers for weekly Bingo.
- Beauty/barber salon services have been suspended until further notice.
- Daily religious services include:
 - Eucharistic Prayer Service via closed-circuit TV, followed by Sisters as Eucharistic Ministers bringing Communion to Catholic residents who wish to receive.

- Rosary is prayed together, broadcast over closed-circuit TV with a Sister leading the prayers.
- Daily afternoon spiritual reflections broadcast over closed-circuit TV.
- Personal visits by Sr. Ann and Sr. Robert to pray with residents.

Employees

- Staff are screened each shift on arrival and before leaving the building. Anyone with symptoms of COVID-19 or flu is not permitted to work.
- We are doing all that we can to support our employees during this time. Employees have been encouraged to notify us of any needs they have.
- We appreciate and encourage any messages you may want us to extend to our staff. They are compassionate, hard-working, dedicated individuals who would appreciate your prayers and support. Messages can be sent via e-mail to hkeller@garveymanor.org or Facebook Messenger.

Supplies

- We are monitoring supplies of personal protective equipment (PPE) daily and communicating needs to the local and state agencies with whom we partner.
- We are preserving PPE as much as possible.
- We are maintaining communication with all vendors/suppliers of our needs.

Visitors

- Garvey Manor has discontinued all visitation.
- Compassionate visitation will be allowed for end of life care, and other special circumstances, under direction of social services and administration.
- Volunteer services have been discontinued at this time.

Vendors

- Essential vendors are required to sanitize hands, are screened and required to mask prior to proceeding past lobby or loading dock. This includes pharmacy, x-ray, lab, etc.

In addition to your continued patience and understanding, we ask you to keep our residents, staff, and the country in your prayers as we keep you in ours.

May God bless and protect all of us!