



Montgomery Place

FROM 
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SUBJ MONTGOMERY PLACE CONTINUES ITS SAFETY AND SECURITY
PROTOCOLS DURING THIS TIME OF COVID-19

Over the last 31 days of “Stay-At-Home” (yes, even though it seems like three years, that’s all its been), the management team has been investing in the safety and security of all residents who live at Montgomery Place. Many have volunteered to stay overnight to be here for emergencies and to help wherever needed, even in the early hours of the morning. Many of us are not trained healthcare professionals, but we are stepping up to assist when needed. We are being trained by our staff nurses and CNAs. I must say, we certainly are strengthening our team relationships.

But there is a cost to this. The management team, viewed as administrative staff, are closer to this virus through direct patient contact. Today I share that I am experiencing possible symptoms of COVID-19. And, I’m now practicing what I preach and have moved to self-quarantine until I receive my COVID-19 test results. Don’t worry! I actually feel fine. I’m still working...just from my home. I’m sure that before this is over, I will be totally stir crazy along with everyone else!

The team at Montgomery Place, led by Paul Zappoli, are extremely capable of handling day-to-day operations. We are in contact via email, text and Zoom as needed to keep daily life continuing.

The special isolation unit is complete. We currently are attending to five individuals; one will end the 14-day quarantine tomorrow and return to her regular room. Other patients are doing quite well in quarantine. Let’s keep hoping that all have successful recoveries.

This is housekeeping blitz week again. Teams of housekeepers are cleaning apartments and changing out linens. They have finished floors 7 through 14 and will do floors 4 through 6 next (Floors 2 and 3 are done more frequently). During this COVID-19 period of no-contact, we ask residents to wait in the elevator lobby on their floor while the team cleans their apartment. It takes about 20 to 40 minutes, depending on size and clutter, to clean a unit. Each unit is sanitized to help defeat the virus. Residents are then invited back to their apartment as the team transitions to the next unit.

In our efforts to reduce person-to-person contact to avoid this virus, we will be shifting deliveries in the coming days. Instead of a personal handoff of items, we will be installing hooks on each door. Meals and mail will still be delivered, but they will be left on the hook so residents can obtain them without hand-to-hand

contact. Of course, we are going to work with individuals who are challenged with limitations in mobility, but we feel this will reduce hand-to-hand contact. This is modeled after many fast food restaurants who no longer hand you a bag, but instead require you to reach out and take it from a tray.

As I answer questions from family members or residents, I want to help assure you on several points.

1. ***How will I know if I have been exposed to someone with COVID-19?***

When we discover someone has tested positive, we initiate a “contact list exploration” to identify all who might be at risk within an exposure period of a few days prior to the known diagnosis. Contact is considered “close and prolonged,” within six feet for over six minutes. If you are identified as such, you will be personally contacted to discuss the situation. If you do not receive a communication, it is safe to assume you were not considered to be in “close and prolonged” contact.

2. ***If something were to happen to me as the caregiver for my spouse, what would happen to the spouse?***

We have many couples at Montgomery Place. It is not uncommon for one to be the primary caregiver to the other. But we look at each person separately and create alternate plans. So if the primary caregiver should become ill (for any reason, not just COVID-19), we will immediately step in and care for the other spouse. Different paths may be taken, depending on the circumstances. We may make emergency arrangements for safety and then adjust the plans in the following days. But please rest assured that we will take care of you and your spouse.

Let’s all get a good night’s sleep and be ready to embrace a new day tomorrow.

Please do not hesitate to call my mobile phone, 773-617-1317, at any time. Your questions, suggestions and comments will guide what to address in some of my future posts.

Together, we strengthen our resolve.