



Montgomery Place

FROM 
Deborah E. Hart, CEO and President

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SUBJ MONTGOMERY PLACE ANTICIPATES MORE WAYS FOR FAMILIES
TO VISIT DURING THIS TIME OF COVID-19

Dear Residents and Families,

I've been absent too long from your in-box! And that means I need to catch you up on happenings at Montgomery Place. As with any news, there is good news and COVID-19 news. Let's start with COVID-19 news.

Employees are tested for COVID-19 on a weekly basis. Since July 7, eight employees tested positive for the virus. We are happy to say that six of them are back to work, not having experienced any severe reactions to the virus. Two individuals are still in their isolation periods, hoping to return to work later next week. Neither of these two individuals require any advance medical attention.

As we get news of a positive test result, we conduct contact tracing and inform those who may have had close exposure. Then we broadcast more general information to the entire community.

We are happy to say the virus has not spread inside of Montgomery Place. I view our weekly testing practice to be a good method for early identification that helps us keep this virus away from residents. Still, the news of positive cases among our workforce is sobering. We see how vulnerable we all can be.

Now, on to more cheerful news! During the last few days, we are doing some minor improvements to our front lobby. You will begin to see the first indications of how the lobby will look today or on Friday, September 4, when you see fresh paint and newly installed carpet in place. In the weeks ahead, you'll also see a new front desk and new furnishings in hallways, the Lounge and the East Room. I hope these new touches help brighten everyone's day!

The next phases for reopening are on the horizon! CDC, CMS, IDPH and CDPH have published revised guidelines during the last few weeks.

At Montgomery Place, we had been adhering to the guidelines for CMS Phase One. On Friday, August 28, we advanced to CMS Phase Two. While independent living residents may not see many differences with this progress, assisted living and

skilled nursing care residents now can enjoy a communal dining program and activities for small groups that observe all precautions regarding the virus.

Of course, we're eagerly anticipating our move to CMS Phase Three when families can visit residents who live in the healthcare wing of our building. If all continues to go well, we expect to schedule indoor family visits to begin on Tuesday, September 15. And independent living residents can welcome guests into their apartments.

Now don't go planning too big of a party just yet! As with everything about COVID-19, there are lots of rules to go with this good news. I will publish guidelines about how to plan indoor visits during the next few days. In the meantime, here is an overview of what to expect: six-foot social distancing with no touching; no eating together; time limits; limit of 2 visitors over the age of 18 from the same household; and masks worn by everyone.

We look forward to taking these exciting steps with you as we learn to live with COVID-19. Of course, risk is involved. And if we have a misstep and a resident tests positive for COVID-19, we will need to restrict indoor visitations until things get back under control. Let's see if we can open our home together....safely!

Have a safe and happy Labor Day weekend. Residents will enjoy a traditional BBQ with burgers, dogs, corn-on-the-cob and lots more!

With these changes on the horizon, please contact me so I can answer questions or be of further assistance. Call my mobile phone number, 773-617-1317, at any time.

Anticipating being together, uplifts our spirits.