March 11, 2020

Dear Friends and Families,

I am writing once again to keep you informed about our efforts to keep our residents healthy and safe, now that we have the first confirmed cases of the corona virus (COVID-19) in Michigan. Please read this letter carefully, share it with all potential visitors and join us in our efforts.

Beginning today, all visitors will need to stop and see the receptionist before entering the facility. You will be asked to sanitize your hands and take your own temperature with the temporal thermometer provided. The receptionist will record your name and your temperature.

If your temp is below 100.4 F, you will be allowed to visit.

If your temp is at or above 100.4 F and you do not have any other symptoms (sore throat, dry cough, shortness of breath), you will not be allowed to visit until your temp has been normal for 24 hours.

If your temp is at or above 100.4 F and you have any other symptoms (sore throat, dry cough, shortness of breath) you will not be allowed to visit. You will be given a sheet of instructions for medical follow-up.

Additional limitations on your visits may be imposed in the future as directed by our Medical Director and the Centers for Medicaid/Medicare Services (CMS). These may include visiting your loved one only in his/her room, visiting only occasionally or not visiting at all.

Basically, the risk to most of you reading this letter remains low. But, due to their age and other health conditions, the impact on our residents could be substantial, even life-threatening.

Continue to do the following:

1. Wash your hands. Wash your hands. Wash your hands.
2. Avoid touching your face, and if you do touch it, wash your hands.
3. Cover your mouth and nose when you cough or sneeze, then wash your hands.
4. Do not visit your loved ones at St. Anne’s if you have any suspicion that you might be sick.
5. Do not visit your loved ones at St. Anne’s for 14 days following travel to any of the countries where the coronavirus is widespread. Currently these include, China, Korea, Italy, Iran, Japan and Hong Kong.
6. Pick up a Fact Sheet from MDHHS when you visit. They are available at the front desk.

In addition:

1. Do not take your loved one out into the community.
2. Avoid shaking hands.

Thank you for joining us in our efforts to keep our residents safe and healthy. We don’t want to be alarmists, but we do want to take this threat seriously. Our goal is to prevent the introduction of any of these viruses into our community, but we can’t do it alone.

On a personal note, I would like to ask for your willing cooperation in this effort. It is not easy for us to ask you to follow these and potentially other restrictions. Remember that we all share the same goal! We’re all on the same team!

Gratefully,

Jane Collins, Executive Director