



...Serving older adults in the spirit of Christian love.

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April 19, 2020

Dear Elders, Families and Friends of MSS,

Today, a case of COVID-19 has been diagnosed in an employee at the Martha Coker Green House Homes in Yazoo City, Mississippi.

The employee has been quarantined at home and is receiving appropriate care. We are currently following the "Criteria for Return to Work for Health Care Personnel with Confirmed or Suspected COVID-19" guidance issued by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). In addition, we are working to identify and contact all people who have interacted with this employee to make them aware of the situation. We have notified public health officials and are working with the State Epidemiologist and following all recommendations provided by the Mississippi Department of Health.

Please know that we have followed, and will continue to do so, all guidance set forth by state and federal officials for privacy, elder care, employee safety, and efforts to stop the spread of COVID-19.

Prior to each shift, staff are required to wash their hands, take their temperature, and answer a series of questions to ensure they are not exhibiting any known COVID-19 symptoms. Employees also take their temperatures at the conclusion of their shift. Any employees who develop symptoms during a shift are immediately sent home. At that point, they are directed to quarantine at home. This process is also followed for essential workers, both employees and outside service providers alike. We also conduct a rigorous sanitation regimen and have increased the daily volume of cleaning performed within our homes.

Although this can be a challenge at times when providing supportive care to the elders, we continue to practice safe distancing guidelines by limiting the number of people in one area and maintaining appropriate spacing when in a common area. To help us achieve this in our homes, we have encouraged in-room dining and dining in shifts to accommodate distancing. Our activities have also been adjusted to ensure no-contact.

As a reminder we are not permitting visitors at this time. We understand that you are concerned about your loved one, but it is crucial that we continue to restrict visitation to reduce the spread of this virus. Adherence to their recommendations and respect for our restricted visitation policies will help Martha Coker from incurring further exposure.

We know this is a difficult time for everyone. We will continue to provide you with updates as they become available. We know that you may have questions and we encourage you to contact Martha Coker. We will keep you posted with any new developments. Thank you for your support and cooperation.

Sincerely,

Steve McAlilly
President/CEO

Julie Hoffman
Martha Coker Green House Homes
Executive Director

For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but one of power, love, and sound judgement. ~ 2 Timothy 1:7