

May 4, 2020

Dear Team Members,

It's hard to believe that just a week ago we were writing to you to ask you to "shelter-in-place" in order to assist us in protecting our campuses from the spread of COVID-19. Each new day brings new challenges and changes, but we are pleased with the effort everyone is making to stay safe during this critical time.

I don't like wearing masks. They are uncomfortable and hot. It doesn't seem like I can talk very well. Those are the practical reasons. But there are vain reasons too. I think people look goofy wearing masks. And if I wear one it makes me seem like a "chicken."

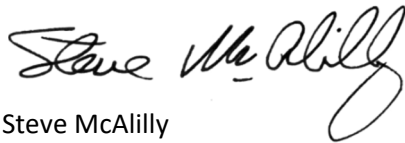
But masks save lives. And in our organization, job one is to protect the elders.

We don't wear masks to protect ourselves. Masks are worn to protect other people. It is selfish for me to care more about how I feel and look than I care about others' safety. Now, unless I am alone, or working outside by myself, I am wearing my mask. When I go out to get groceries or to the drugstore, I don't like it, but I am wearing my mask. But I do like helping to protect others.

This virus is extremely lethal to elders and it's stealthy. If it gets into a retirement community it can spread like a wildfire. I know you don't want to be the one who started the fire.

Job one is to protect the elders, then each other. If you work at Methodist Senior Services, you will wear a mask, because we care about people. It's just that simple.

Sincerely,



Steve McAlilly  
President/CEO

**For God has not given us a spirit of fear,  
but one of power, love and sound judgement.  
~ 2 Timothy 1.7**