



# DEVON GABLES

REHABILITATION CENTER

**12/17/2020**

Dear Resident, Family Member/Loved One,

## **Facility COVID-19 Update:**

The CMS Pima county positivity rate has updated to **21.5%** and we continue to be in the “red” classification, which means there is SUBSTANTIAL SPREAD WITHIN PIMA COUNTY. All full time staff is currently testing twice a week.

- **We have 1 recently admitted resident on the monitoring unit in a private room who tested positive for COVID-19 on 12/17/2020 and was moved to the COVID positive unit with dedicated staff where they will remain per CDC guidelines.**
- **We have 1 asymptomatic staff who tested positive for COVID-19 on 12/17/2020 and will be off work according to CDC guidelines.**

The facility continues to be in outbreak status and all indoor and outdoor visits are on hold. **Compassion, window, and virtual visits will continue by appointment.**

## **Families and Residents:**

**The FDA has approved Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine for emergency use on December 11<sup>th</sup> 2020. Skilled Nursing Facilities Residents and Staff across the country will be a top priority for vaccine administration.**

**Walgreens has been assigned as our Immunizing clinic for this vaccine. They will come to the Facility for on-site immunizations of the Residents and Staff. This will be in two stages at least 21-28 days between the vaccines.**

**An EUA (Emergency Use Authorization) fact sheet is available at [www.cvdvaccine.com](http://www.cvdvaccine.com) or feel free to call Da Armenta (Infection Prevention RN) or Kendra Rogne (Director of Nursing) with any questions or concerns regarding the vaccine.**

**In preparation for the vaccine clinics we will be gathering consents from Residents and/or Families. The facility is preparing a policy to establish protocols for vaccinated vs non-vaccinated Residents and Staff.**

**We will be communicating more information to you as we get it. Thank you for your patience. We have hopes that a vaccine will allow us as a Facility to open back up to our Families and Partners while keeping our Residents safe.**

Our facility continues to have an adequate supply of PPE, but we are using some of it on a crisis/contingency plan according to CDC and CMS to preserve it. All employees are wearing face masks universally while in the building, and using eye protection whenever a staff member is within 6 feet of a resident or providing direct care. Full isolation including gowns, gloves, masks and eye protection are being used on our monitoring unit and exposed units for direct patient care.



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We continue to follow COVID-19 policy and procedures including increased hand hygiene, increased sanitation of high touch surfaces and monitoring of employees, essential visitors, and residents to help mitigate the spread of COVID-19.

We now have **2** residents in the COVID-19 positive unit with dedicated staff.

\*Our in person visits (both outdoor and indoor) are on hold as we are in outbreak status. When allowed we will allow these visits by appointment. Any visitors that do not adhere to required infection control practices will be asked to leave.

\*All visitations will be coordinated by the facility's "Visitation Coordinator." Visitation may be scheduled by calling the Visitation Coordinator at 520-296-6181 Ext. 5033 between the hours of 8:00 am and 3:00 pm Monday through Friday.

CMS Recommendations during the Holiday Season that have been shared with Family, Residents and Staff:

- Limit close contact (maintain physical distancing of six feet or more), keep gatherings as small as possible and use technology to engage with others remotely.
- Wear facemask or cloth face coverings at all times (including in cars, homes, restaurants, etc)
- Keep safe around food and drinks. Avoid communal serving utensils, passing of food, potluck or buffet style food service, and instead opt for individually prepared plates by a single server. Perform hand hygiene often (e.g., wash hands with soap and water or alcohol based hand sanitizer)
- Avoid large gatherings, crowded areas, and high risk activities such as singing
- For those attending a gathering, avoid contact with individuals outside of their household for 14 days prior to gathering
- Ask anyone who has signs or symptoms of COVID-19, or has been exposed to someone diagnosed with COVID-19, to not attend the gathering.
- If possible, conduct gatherings outdoors. Indoor gatherings should have good ventilation, open windows and doors if possible
- Verbally greet others instead of shaking hands or giving hugs. Think ahead how you will manage to prevent physical interactions with loved ones of different ages such as young children.
- Check local conditions and state requirements for precautions and restrictions, including percent positivity rates and quarantine requirements, before crossing state lines.

Arizona has an assistance line for anyone dealing with stress related to COVID-19. Dial 211 or 877-211-8661.

Thank you for your support during this Pandemic. Let us know if you have any questions.