



May 8, 2020

## COVID-19 Updates:

On Tuesday, May 5<sup>th</sup>, 2020, the skilled nursing unit underwent COVID-19 testing for the residents of the Health Center. I want to give a special “Moment of Gratitude” to the Director of Nursing Services, Janice Pate – RN, and the clinical team for her incredibly detailed leadership, preparation and execution of this event. Mrs. Pate’s team worked side-by-side with the King County Department of Health (DOH) to calmly, safely and efficiently test our most vulnerable population at Bayview. Mrs. Pate’s guidance further strengthened our partnership with the DOH, and showed, first-hand, our commitment and culture of sound infection control practices among our staff and our residents of Bayview.

Concurrently, DOH conducted an Infection Control Assessment Review (ICAR) evaluation of Bayview’s current infection control practices focused towards COVID-19. This inspection reviewed everything COVID-19 related, including policies, procedures, current counts of on-hand personal protective equipment (PPE), staffing, and physical inspections of employee infection control practice. The survey was a resounding success! DOH was truly impressed, not only with our infection control practices, but also with all of the efforts our staff and residents have put forth during this time to keep COVID-19 out of our facility. I am still awaiting the final report to be sent via email from DOH. When it arrives, I will communicate more reportable information.

The laboratory company “Lab Corps” is currently in receipt of our COVID-19 tests. They have stated results are usually obtained within 24-72 hours after receipt. As of this writing, we still do not know the results. More communication will follow when the results arrive.

As time progresses, more data is accumulated by the state and shared with the public. Below is an interesting breakdown of COVID-19 data as of 5/2/2020.

“A total of 2,894 COVID-19 cases (19% of total cases) and 507 deaths (61% of total deaths) have been identified as associated with a long-term care facility, including nursing homes, assisted living facilities or adult family homes. These cases may include residents as well as employees and visitors, and currently, we have limited ability to distinguish amongst them.”



These numbers are a stark reminder of the frailty senior communities such as Bayview faces each day. As the media continues to highlight the Governor's plan to reopen Washington, each employment sector must meet new guidelines and criteria to reopen. We must remember Bayview falls into a completely different sector of healthcare. Criteria that may apply to other Independent Living Communities, may not apply the same as Bayview since we are a Life Plan Community and have all facets of care from Independent, Assisted, Memory, Child and Skilled care. We must meet the criteria for all levels of care. Our approach in relaxing our restrictions will be calculated, measured and follow all of the necessary recommendations and regulations.

**Trending Questions:**

“Is it okay for me to move my mask to the side or off of my face when speaking so others can hear me?”

Even if you are properly social distance from others the risk is higher for exposing others if you move your mask away from your mouth or nose AT ANY TIME. Can you recall a time when it was really cold outside, and you could see your breath when you exhale? What you are seeing are vapor droplets coming from your body. These droplets exit your mouth and nose each time you exhale. It is these droplets, that can reach other people, or fall onto surfaces that may potentially infect others if touched and / or ingested by others.

It is not only our social responsibility to utilize “Universal Source Control” by keeping our mouth and nose covered, it is also a sign of respect and caring for others. No need to worry if people can hear you or not. They can, and if they say they can't, it is not because of a cloth facemask! So, wear your facemask proudly knowing you care for the welfare of others, you respect other's space and you are continuing your infection control vigilance through Universal Source Control! Be well, and stay healthy!

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