



BAYVIEW

A POINT OF VIEW

May 29, 2020

COVID-19 Updates

This past week saw the testing of Skilled Nursing Employees. So far, out of a total of 67 eligible employees, 24 employees have been tested, 23 employees have declined, and we are still waiting to hear from the 20 remaining employees. Test results have not returned yet from the completed tests, however, we have high hopes. As of this correspondence, Bayview proudly continues to be COVID-19 free.

Lately, I feel like I am more of an Insurance Adjuster than a Nursing Home Administrator! Insurance companies are always looking at ways to mitigate risk. What action or scenario will have the least amount of risk to the person? The lower the risk, the lower the cost to that person. Elements of risk are inherent in everything we are and do. For example, a 20-year-old, male driver has a higher car insurance premium than a 50-year-old female driver. Why? Statistical data shows age and gender are risk factors that are consistent among large groups of people. In this case data shows, young, male drivers experience more accidents than older, female drivers.

With COVID-19, we must constantly weigh risk factors with all we do. My feelings of being the Insurance Adjuster come from the increased frequency of questions I am receiving of the desire to conduct activity outside of the Governor's "Stay Home, Stay Healthy" program combined with balancing the "Safe-Start" initiative. The ramifications and consequences of our individual choices and actions could remove any choice others may have and could ultimately destroy all of the efforts we have collectively endured together so far. Statistical data shows any movement outside of our homes inherently increases our risk of exposure. Risk incrementally increases with each choice we make while outside of our home. This is why, among other restrictions, movement has been limited to essential business only. Consistent enforcement of restrictions is necessary to protect life.

Consistency is the key to the equal treatment of all. Individual assessments or allowances to circumvent or "bend the rules, just this once" harbors a toxic undertone of favoritism, mistrust, and poor or weak leadership. Understand, any action we take outside of the restrictions is an elevation of risk. As Bayview continues to remain COVID-19 free, the threat of a false sense of security or a feeling of invincibility weaves into the fabric of our daily lives. We must remember, choices we make to increase our personal risk is not about us, but about those whom we will affect. Shielding yourself from risk helps in the protection your neighbor.

Joel Smith, Health Services Administrator
Office: 206.281.5747 | jsmith@bayviewseattle.org

