

# August 26, 2020 Independent Living Community Update

**Covid -19:** Arizona COVID numbers are showing some improvement – still climbing but with fewer new cases per day. We remain steady on our Independent Living services – continuing with what we have re-opened but not yet opening up anything else. As always, we stay current with guidelines provided by the CDC, AzDHS and Maricopa County Health Dept. We will continue to monitor and evaluate all of this information and adjust services as appropriate.

We remain committed to helping reduce the spread of COVID-19 within our senior living community. Residents, staff and visitors must wear a facemask or cloth face covering anytime social distancing is not possible. Staff and visitors are required to symptom screen each day upon arrival to our community. Staff are continually trained to follow infection control protocol. We cannot guarantee our efforts will keep residents from contracting the virus, however please know that our number one priority continues to be the health and safety of our residents and staff.

**New Precaution - Resident Health Screenings:** Because many residents are leaving campus to shop or go to medical appointments, we've added another layer of protection by asking all residents who visit the front office to do a health self-screening. It's fast and easy and while it may seem inconvenient to some, I encourage you to think about it this way: If we identify just one resident with a temperature, we could potentially help keep many others from contracting the virus.

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:

### How many cases in our Fellowship Square Historic Mesa Community?

Currently we have one resident with confirmed COVID positive among our Independent Living residents who is quarantined on campus. Any other previously reported cases have completed their quarantine period. Out of an abundance of caution we are offering testing on site for exposed staff and residents on Wednesday August 26<sup>th</sup>.

The Oasis remains Covid-free at this time and there are no known staff cases at this time. Staff wears masks and is trained to follow protocol to ensure the safety of residents. **How can you get a test?** Residents should contact their primary health care provider for information on testing if they are concerned. Testing is available locally at FastMed urgent care and CVS. Residents may call life enrichment for transportation information to testing sites. In addition, Dispatch Health can come do Covid-19 testing. They only do the nasal swab test with results expected in 2-6 days. They encourage you to check with your insurance company to verify coverage.

What happens if a resident tests positive? Residents who test positive are asked to inform Security so that we can implement our quarantine protocols. It is the responsibility of the testing site to contact Maricopa County Department of Health and they will do contact tracing, however we also ask the resident who they may have been in close contact with so that we can inform them and request they get tested.

**Self Quarantine:** We continue to advise residents to stay home and self-quarantine for 14 days if any of the following apply:

- 1) they have a fever or respiratory symptoms
- 2) they are told to by their health care provider that they should self-quarantine
- 3) they test positive for Covid-19 or have been tested and are awaiting results
- 4) they go to a high risk location like a hospital (unless they come back with a negative test)

**Reminder to wear face coverings:** City of Mesa and Maricopa County Facemask requirement – Residents, Staff and Visitors must wear a facemask or cloth face covering anytime social distancing is not possible. Residents and staff are reminded to adhere to the requirement within our community.

When can our community get back to normal? While we have lifted a number of restrictions so far, we are not lifting ALL restrictions at this time. Further expansion of our phased opening is currently on hold. We have intentionally not given dates to plan so that we can monitor the community spread and adjust accordingly.

### Here is where we remain as of today:

- East/West gates remain locked.
- Small group activities continue for up to 6 residents at a time. Please refer to the Activities calendar that was delivered to your door.
- Swimming pools currently 3 time slots available M-F and Saturday for all pools.
  - Reservations for swimming and other activities are required through Life Enrichment. We continue to follow CDC recommendations for social distancing and cleaning for all.
- Nonessential visitors are welcome but are required to wear a face covering, conduct a brief health screening and only go to the apartment. Your visitors are encouraged to make deliveries of packages and groceries to you but try to limit the number of visitors to reduce exposure.
- Package service delivery from outside carriers to your door resumed on June 15<sup>th</sup>.
- Housekeeping is back to full service twice per month.

#### What is not changing just yet

- NO Guests in common areas (pool, dog parks...)
- Meal service will continue with delivery only.
- Gyms are not open at this time due to Gov. Ducey's Order.
- No transportation except for individual essential medical appts and essential shopping.
  - New: We will be health screening residents just before their scheduled ride. If they are running a temperature, we will not be able to transport.
- Group programs in gym are not available, channel 1960 programming continues.
- o Community rooms and common areas open to scheduled activities only
- Enhanced cleaning and disinfecting of common areas
- No volunteer lead programs only staff
- Resident communications will continue to be delivered to apartments.
- Grand beauty shop open by appointment only with precautions

**Country Store:** Deliveries have gone to twice per week – Mondays & Thursdays for the Grand/west side and Tuesdays & Fridays for the Center/east side. Residents may continue to place their orders at any time and they will be fulfilled on the next scheduled delivery day.

**Water Meter Work:** Unfortunately, the City of Mesa water meter work in front of office has resumed because the meter was not operating correctly. We expect the work to continue into next week and we will advise promptly if there are any scheduled water shut offs.

**Heat Advisory:** Temperatures remain dangerously hot outside so please stay inside as much as possible and try to limit any necessary outdoor activity to the morning hours. Remember to DRINK PLENTY OF WATER!

We promise to be transparent and forthcoming, as situations develop and change. Updates will continue to be communicated in a timely manner via hand delivered notices and on Channel 1960.

Please ask your family members to continue to watch our website and Facebook page for these updates. Have a blessed week and stay well!