



BAPTIST RETIREMENT HOMES

OF NORTH CAROLINA, INCORPORATED

PROUDLY SERVING OLDER ADULTS SINCE 1951

Reed VanderSlik
President and CEO

To All Residents and Family Members,

We would like to share an update on how Baptist Retirement Homes of North Carolina is responding to the rapidly changing environment caused by the continued spreading of coronavirus (COVID-19). At Baptist Homes, we feel well prepared, and we acknowledge there may be needed adjustments along the way as we, along with you, navigate through these unprecedented times. We highly value your safety, and we appreciate your patience with us during these disruptive times.

Over the past couple of days, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) have imposed more severe restrictions on visitations and Baptist Homes is compliant with them. **Effective immediately, visits from family members, friends and non-essential health care personnel are no longer permitted.** Exceptions will be made only in compassionate care situations such as end-of-life care (and in those cases, restricted to the resident's room only). All visitors entering the community for compassionate care purposes will be screened prior to their entrance. No visitors will be permitted if they show signs of respiratory infection (fever, cough, shortness of breath or sore throat), have been in contact with someone with or under investigation for the COVID-19, or have traveled outside of the country within the last 14 days to any restricted countries.

Upon leaving the community, all visitors should self-monitor for signs and symptoms for 14 days. Should symptoms occur during this time period, they should self-isolate at home, contact their healthcare provider, immediately notify the community of the date they visited, who they were in contact with and the locations they visited. We also ask that they not attend community events during the 14-day period.

Some additional steps we are taking to minimize resident and team member risk include:

- Residents attending functions will be screened for fever and respiratory symptoms; all team members will be screened at the beginning of each shift. Any residents or team members identified with symptoms will be immediately sent home to self-isolate.
- Ongoing reminders of the importance of social distancing and proper hand hygiene.

Baptist Homes has cancelled communal dining and group activities in the Healthcare areas as guided by CMS; Independent Living will continue internal and external communal dining, group

activities and church services, but we have cancelled group activities led by outside entertainers/vendors. However, we reserve the right to cancel communal dining, all group activities and church services if the need arises.

We will continue to monitor COVID-19 developments at the local and national level to ensure that we have the most effective precautions in place. We are committed to keeping our residents and families apprised of any new developments. We have created a telephone hotline that will be available before noon on Wednesday, March 18 **(336-407-1594)** and email inbox **BRHCovid19@brh.org** for you to contact us with questions or concerns. Please be sure to identify the Baptist Homes community you are calling or emailing about.

Thank you for your patience and understanding.

Sincerely,

Reed Vanderslik, President and CEO
Baptist Retirement Homes of NC