



Dear Residents,

Here are your COVID-19 updates for Monday, May 11, 2020.

The past few weeks have been life-changing for all of us. We have been tested and challenged in ways we would have never imagined. As of this letter, I am glad to be able to report that Redstone remains COVID-19 free. While we all can take some credit for that because of the policies that we have instituted and upheld, we know that other organizations which have worked just as hard, have not been so fortunate. In the state of Pennsylvania as of Wednesday, there are over 50,000 cases of COVID-19. Approximately 12,000 of those cases are residents and employees of senior living communities. Even while Pennsylvania and other states turn attention to reopening business and the economy, we realize that we need to err on the side of caution in long term care. As one of my colleagues in LeadingAge recently challenged us, "Don't give up, and don't let up."

As we begin to understand more about the plans for reopening at both the state and federal level, it is clear that changes of practice within senior living communities will be down the road. We are glad that Westmoreland County is moving to the YELLOW phase, but yellow won't really mean noticeable changes for us in senior living communities. Our restrictions will need to remain in place until our government, and our Redstone leadership team, believe that it is safe to implement changes.

In light of this, please continue to uphold the following policies:

- Do you think the nice Spring weather will ever be here to stay? Hopefully soon! Please feel free to walk or sit outside. You may visit with your neighbors when outside, but please maintain that 6 feet of space around you.
- Remember that if you need to go into any public spaces to continue to wear your mask.

In last week's letter, we may have been a little optimistic about some of our plans for reopening. In order to make sure that everyone is as safe as possible, we will continue to work on the details for our reopening plans, but these plans won't be implemented until the time is right. Behind the scenes, we have a great team that is putting together policies that will allow us to return to some normalcy, all while observing limited seating, physical distancing, and thorough infection control practices.

We will continue to wait for guidance from the CDC and the DOH as to when it will be safe to allow visitors and volunteers to return to Redstone. We will continue to offer the personal shopper service until we receive word that it is safe for you to return to the stores.

Managing COVID-19 has felt like running a marathon. Novice runners can make the mistake of trying to sprint too fast, which leaves them unable to finish the race. It is important for us, too, to keep the pace and stay on course through this time. We have all worked so hard to get safely to this point, so in our desire to return to normal, let us be appropriately careful. You have been patient, understanding, and resilient. Let's press on in this race, continuing to support each other each and every day.

Sincerely,

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