



## **WEEKLY UPDATE**

**June 8, 2020**

Dear Residents and Families/Representatives,

Please accept this letter as our facility's weekly update to keep you informed about the status of COVID in our facility and what we are doing to keep our residents and staff safe during the ongoing coronavirus pandemic.

There have been no additional confirmed cases of COVID-19 in our facility since we notified you of our only case as of May 19<sup>th</sup>. At this point we are happy to report that the contract staff member that initially tested positive tested negative 4 days later. We have completed 100% testing of staff and residents with no further positive cases. We will continue routine testing of staff and patients until further direction is received from NMDOH. I am also pleased to inform you that through a partnership with New Mexico Department of Health, Clean Harbors has been contracted and has provided a facility wide sterilization on Monday June 1<sup>st</sup> -2<sup>nd</sup>, 2020. We have continued deep cleaning the facility with the appropriate solutions to combat Covid-19 as well. We have continued to have one on one activities with Casa Maria's residents and social distanced activities in very small groups.

I would like to take a moment to address our most common question. As New Mexico continues to reduce restrictions questions related to Casa Maria accepting visitors, etc are being raised. At this point no visitation restrictions have been lifted. The New Mexico Department of Health is discussing plans to slowly lift restrictions, but at this point has not provided further guidance on a formal date or plan.

We remain committed to protecting our residents and staff and preventing further spread of this virus. As we previously reported, we will continue to implement and practice enhanced safety precautions recommended by our federal, state and local health officials, such as, only allowing essential personnel inside the facility, not allowing outside items to be brought into the facility, performing regular screenings for signs and symptoms of illness prior to entering the building, continually monitoring residents, performing regular deep cleanings, using PPE as recommended by the CDC, providing individual activities as opposed to group activities, implementing isolation protocols as required, and reminding and encouraging staff to practice social distancing and to use hand sanitizer and frequently wash their hands when they are in the facility and out in the community.

As a reminder, we will continue to post updates on our facility website and we will individually notify representatives/families regarding a resident's condition if he/she tests positive for COVID-19 or is displaying symptoms of COVID-19. If you have any questions or concerns please contact us directly 575-623-6008.

Sincerely,

*Ian Peterson*

Ian Peterson  
Administrator