

Date: February 28, 2022

To: Residents, Caregivers, Families, and Friends From: Gustave (Gus) Keach-Longo, President/CEO

RE: **COVID-19 Update**

Two Years!

Two years ago on March 9th, we began our first set of protocols to keep us safe from COVID-19. In many ways these past two years have been some of our most challenging. We did what was necessary to proactively take steps to stay ahead of the spread. I am truly amazed by how well our community pulled together and made the right decisions for ourselves and for each other. We have weathered this unprecedented storm and are stronger because of it.

Bravo my friends, bravo!

At this time, many of us are eager to feel "normal" again. May this be the beginning of a spring of renewal and reconnection.

Masks

On Friday evening, we heard that the New Haven Ordinance mandating masks be worn indoors will end as of March 7th. Therefore, as of Monday, March 7th, please feel free to make your own decision about whether or not to wear masks in our building.

It is perfectly fine, respected and supported to continue wearing masks if you feel more comfortable. No one should ever be made to feel uncomfortable for wearing a mask in our community. It is likely that masks may remain part of our culture for a while—esp. during cold/flu seasons.

Monitoring COVID

The method for tracking the COVID virus and determining the level of risk has shifted from counting the number of reported cases, to the monitoring number of people sick enough to require medical care in hospital settings. This shift in approach is possible due to the success of vaccines and the most recent variant not being as deadly.



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We will continue to monitor the information from the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and our state Department of Public Health (DPH) going forward. If a worrisome new variant is identified, or if any other cause for concern arises I will update you. As we always have, we will share what we know and the protocols we feel are necessary to keep us safe.

For now, let's all breathe a little easier and hope that we are past the worst of the pandemic for good.

Staying Strong, Staying Safe and Staying Connected! -- Gus