

Date: March 30, 2022  
To: Residents, Caregivers, Families, and Friends  
From: Gustave (Gus) Keach-Longo, President/CEO

RE: **COVID-19 Update**

### **Booster Shots**

You likely heard that on Tuesday the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) authorized a second COVID-19 vaccine booster for individuals age 50 and older and for younger individuals with weakened immune systems.

We are also aware that the new variant of the OMICRON variant is becoming the dominate variant of new COVID-19 cases in the United States. From what we know at this point, the BA-2 seems more contagious than Omicron, however it seems to have lower risk of severe symptoms and hospitalizations.

Since our community was “boosted” in October 2021, majority of our residents and team members/caregivers are now approximately 5 months since our first booster shots. The recommendation for the timing of the booster shots is 4+ months from the first booster.

Given the above, we believe that it is wise for us to offer a 2<sup>nd</sup> booster clinic at The Towers.

### **Booster Clinic**

As I have shared with you, we had conversations with Walgreens a month ago about offering a new booster clinic. At this time, we are reaching out again to Walgreens to discuss scheduling a date for them to come onsite.

The clinic will be run as our last. Walgreens will visit each resident’s apartment and they will offer a clinic on our ground floor. As soon as we know the details, we will share them. Please know that it is likely to be scheduled near the end of April.

## **Who Should Receive 2<sup>nd</sup> Booster Shots**

Anyone who:

- is 50 years old or older or has a weakened immune system due to a health condition
- has not already received a 2<sup>nd</sup> booster shot given at a pharmacy (e.g. Walgreens/CVS)
- has not contracted COVID-19 since his/her first booster shot in October 2021.

We understand that individuals who have had COVID-19 recently may not need a 2<sup>nd</sup> booster at this time. Some information available suggests that these individuals wait to receive the 2<sup>nd</sup> booster shot. At this time, we cannot find definitive information as to how long to wait post recovery.

So, we suggest that you consult with your physician if you are unsure if you should receive the 2<sup>nd</sup> booster shot.

## **Type of Booster Shots**

At this time the Pfizer shot was approved. So we are assuming Pfizer will be the one available to us for the clinic. We will confirm everything with Walgreens.

## **Our Community**

I understand that some of our residents are becoming nervous about the latest news related to BA-2. Folks, there is no need to worry. COVID-19 is not what it was two years ago and I will continue to monitor COVID-19—just as I shared with you.

Our community repeatedly came together to do the “right thing” for all of us throughout these past two years and we will do whatever we need to in the future. We are strong and resilient. I have faith in all of us and I know we will stay safe. So, let go of your worry—and have some fun this spring!

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