



FROM THE

Executive Director

November 19, 2020



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Dear Residents,

We have received many questions about visitation during the Thanksgiving holiday, and I will do my best to give answers and explain the logic behind them. As I have emphasized previously, I want you all to be the frontline workers keeping yourselves and each other safe.

Maryland's positivity rate is 6.8% and rising every day. We are strongly discouraging leaving the campus for a holiday visit and meal. The virus is making a strong comeback, and we are seeing the number of positive team members grow, NOT from work, but from the wider community; clearly COVID-19 is spreading.

It's natural to feel relaxed around family, but when that happens, COVID precautions typically become more relaxed – masks are forgotten about, obviously cannot be worn when eating, and social distancing is not practiced. Additionally, younger family members are frequently the vector for infecting other relatives.

For your and your family and friends' safety, we strongly advise you refrain from traveling and attending holiday celebrations. We realize not spending the holiday in person with family and friends is difficult, but we urge you to put safety first with our changing conditions.

If you choose to leave the community to have a Thanksgiving meal with others, you are required to self-isolate for 14 days upon your return, to keep your fellow residents and our team members safe. During this time, you will not be able to leave your residence unless it is for an essential medical appointment. You will have to wait until after 14 days to use the pool and gym and visit with others.

We have not changed the policy for residential living residents to visit one another. If you choose to dine in your home with other CLV residents, please follow protocols, and consider only doing so with those who routinely follow safety precautions.

Some creative Thanksgiving options from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention:

- *Sharing a meal virtually*

Use a virtual meeting app (e.g. Zoom, Facebook Messenger, FaceTime) and schedule a time to share a meal with family.

- *Scheduling a watch party*

Watch the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade, sports game or movies with your family or friends via the phone or virtual meeting app. Each of you can watch TV from the comfort and safety of your home. You could also try Facebook's watch party.

- *Sharing recipes*

Agree to share favorite recipes among one another in advance of Thanksgiving. Each of you chooses to make one or more of the favorite recipes received. Then, reveal the recipe(s) you've chosen to make as you enjoy the dish(es) in your virtual meal gathering.

Additionally, you may take advantage of ordering a prepared Thanksgiving meal for delivery, to save you the trouble of cooking.

I know you are tired, I know you are frustrated, I know you are exhausted having to live this way. Please hang in there a bit longer. The cavalry is coming: vaccines are near, prevalence will be dropping.

Thank you,

John B. Henry
Executive Director
Carroll Lutheran Village

