



Advancing the Art of Living.

August 6, 2020

Dear family member,

On the COVID front, we are happy to report that we are status quo on both campuses. The elder who had tested positive at the Jewish Home at Rockleigh did test negative on the first follow up test and we are awaiting the results of the second test. The elder is still being maintained in a cohort area for the requisite number of days to ensure safety.

We are also hearing that the Commissioner of Health is about to release guidelines on “reopening” for long term care organizations. While we have not seen the document, we have been in touch with some individuals who had the opportunity to provide comments so they’ve given us some preliminary insights. What we do know is that the guidance will cover a wide range of topics from testing schedules for staff to indoor visiting and many things in between. We have been told to expect a phased approach, meaning that we will need to meet a set of criteria to reach each phase and to move onto the next phase. We have also been told that there are more than 35 pages of requirements so, once it is issued, we will be spending some time making sure we fully understand and have appropriate protocols in place. The word is that this will be released late tomorrow but we won’t know until it arrives. As you know, we continue to advocate for the rights of our elders and will continue to do so.

While 2020 has already proven itself to be a challenging year, a visit from a tropical storm added to our challenges this week. On Tuesday we first lost power at Jewish Home Assisted Living. That was about 1 pm and power there was restored before 8 pm. The Rockleigh campus was not as lucky. We have been running on generator since 1:30 pm on Tuesday and, as of this writing, that is still the case.

The generator is very large and powers all major services to the building. All of our phones and computers are running, every resident room has a red emergency plug that gives access to generator power and the kitchen is also fully operational. Air conditioning is working well in all of the resident rooms and a number of the public spaces, with the exception of most of our hallways. We have closed all the blinds to maintain the cool, are keeping folks largely in or near their rooms and serving all meals in the rooms. We are still taking folks out for visits and fresh air but, in the building, trying to keep everyone in the most comfortable spaces. If you were in the building, you

would likely not see anything too different, we are conducting business as usual.

The wind also did some tree and power line damage on Link Drive near the corner of the property and the road has been closed there since Tuesday. Anyone visiting here should enter on King Road, turn left on Pond Road, left on Link and enter the parking lot that way. Staff are, for the most part, parked off site right now to ensure we have visitor access.

We have been calling the power company at regular intervals and have also called the State Public Utility board and the Rockleigh Mayor. Everyone is trying to help but there is a lot of damage everywhere. Orange and Rockland (our utility provider) does have a safety officer here, she arrived this afternoon. She told us that they are working their way through major transformer issues and then the priority list, which we are on. She told me that there are hospitals also in the same position that we are and that they are trying to get to everyone as quickly as possible.

There is no reason to be concerned. We are fully operational and have been taking admissions. We've even been able to take some community elders in for respite stays, getting them out of homes without power. If you know an elder that is in that situation, by all means reach out to us, we are happy to help if we can.

We hope that you are staying safe and well. While this storm added a little complexity to all of our lives this week, we continue to stay focused on keeping our elders safe and healthy. Please make sure that you, like all of us, are practicing good infection control, wearing face masks and practicing social distancing. It all matters.

Feel free to call if you have any questions or concerns.

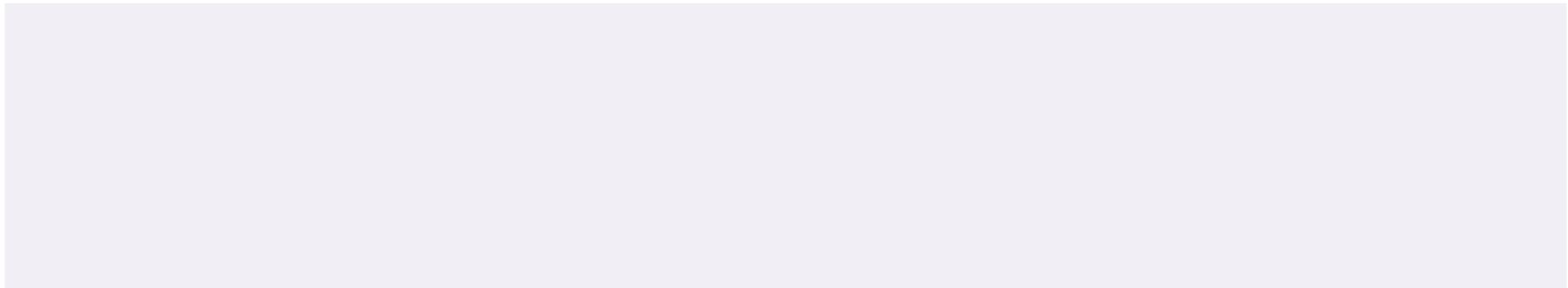
Be well,

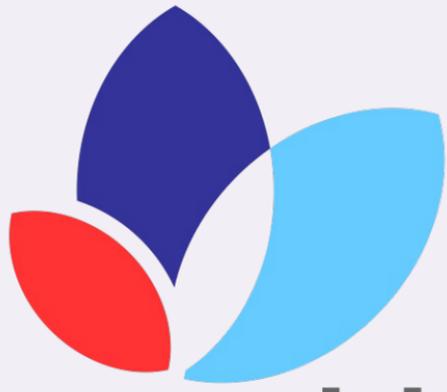


Carol Silver Elliott
President and CEO
The Jewish Home Family



Dr. Harvey Gross
Medical Director
The Jewish Home Family





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