



*Advancing the Art of Living.*

September 11, 2020

Dear Family Member,

We continue with our ongoing COVID testing across the Jewish Home Family. As you know, we continue on regular testing schedules on both campuses for our elders and staff. As of this writing, all of the test results on both campuses for this week have been negative. As always we have a bit of feeling of holding our breath until those test results are completely in and, while we have most of them, we do not have all of them yet.

As you know, we are working through the elements contained in the Governor's most recent Executive Order regarding re-opening. We hope to be able to see Jewish Home Assisted Living advance to Phase II in the very near future and are completing the documents that will need to be submitted to the Department of Health. Phase II would allow more communal activities and would open the door to other services including the beauty salon as well as providing more options for indoor visiting. Because of our sporadic positive test results at the Jewish Home at Rockleigh, we are somewhat slower to advance through the process. As you know we follow any positive test with an additional test. If that result is negative, we retest an additional time. Despite the fact that these additional tests are negative, that first positive result must be reported to the State and stands. We continue to try and address this on a State level but have not, to date, had any success with having them modify their position on this issue.

One of the key provisions of the Executive Order is the creation of the Essential Caregiver role. As we have explained in previous letters, this is an individual who was involved with the elder prior to admission and who can offer assistance with some aspect of their care. These visits are limited to two hours per week. The elder must agree to this person in the Essential Caregiver role as well. To be an Essential Caregiver one must submit an application, which [can be found on our website](#) and meet various criteria. We do strongly recommend that individuals who are applying also obtain a COVID test to safeguard the health of our elders.

Our website, [www.jewishhomefamily.org](http://www.jewishhomefamily.org), now has a separate [COVID-19 section](#) where you can access our outbreak response plan, other important resources as well as all of our family letters since March 3. We hope that this information will prove helpful to you.

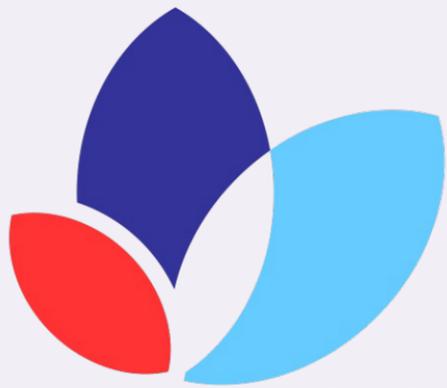
We continue to focus on infection control and ongoing, continuous staff education as well as cleaning and sanitizing of our buildings. We encourage our staff to use care in their own lives, wearing facemasks in public, social distancing and, of course, maintaining good handwashing. We encourage you to do the same and to stay well.

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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