



Advancing the Art of Living.

December 17, 2020

Dear Family Member,

As you know, we continue to test all of our staff and elders on a regular schedule. Staff are tested every other day and elders twice a week. We have had one positive test in our most recent testing, for an elder at Jewish Home Assisted Living. Contact tracing and testing have been completed and family has been notified. All other staff and elders on both campuses have tested negative. We have four elders in the COVID cohort at the Jewish Home at Rockleigh. Two are hospital admissions and all four are recovering well.

The big question that we know you have is about vaccine. While we were originally given a date for the Jewish Home at Rockleigh as early as December 14, today we were notified by the New Jersey Department of Health that vaccinations in nursing homes in our state will begin December 28. We do not know when our vaccine clinics will be held but it will be at some point after that date.

We have been working on our education and communication plans for the vaccine rollout. We will be holding a family Zoom meeting next week to discuss the vaccination program with as much information as we have now. When we get a date, we will hold another program to review the process of informed consent. The informed consent forms are required by CVS/Omnicare before any vaccines can be administered. They are lengthy forms and do have some time sensitivity. For example, they ask about COVID testing within the last two weeks. Therefore, we cannot start distributing them until we have a definite date for vaccine administration. For those elders who are able to sign their own form, we will work directly with them for these consents. For the others we will, of course, reach out to the designated family member to help with completion. We understand that there is a digital version of the form and we would intend to use that as the vehicle to facilitate family consent.

We know that you likely have more questions than answers on the COVID vaccine. We have been reading a lot of material and attending numerous webinars and we, too, still have many unanswered questions. As we learn more, we will share it with you to help you make an informed choice for your loved one. It is our hope that all of our elders and staff will choose to be vaccinated. While we don't believe that we will reach that level of 100% participation, that's the goal for which we are striving. We want the Jewish Home Family to be the safest place it can be and vaccine is one key way to

protect our elders, our staff and our community.

Even with vaccinations complete in early 2021, we will still be wearing facemasks and using PPE as appropriate. Our infection control focus cannot and will not waiver. We continue to thoroughly clean and sanitize and to remind staff of the importance of infection control, handwashing and use of PPE. We hope that you are being careful as well. We have all been so vigilant, now is not the time to lose our focus.

Please feel free to reach out with any questions.

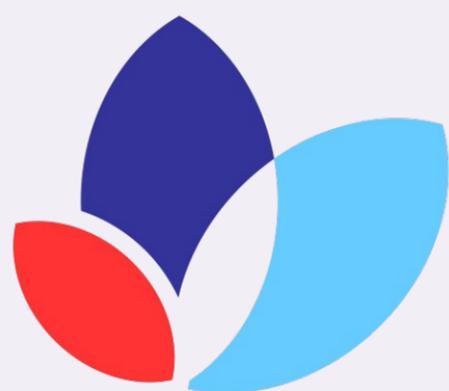
Be well,



Carol Silver Elliott
President and CEO
The Jewish Home Family



Dr. Harvey Gross
Medical Director
The Jewish Home Family



The Jewish
Home Family

Advancing the Art of Living.

