

LINDEN HOUSE

ASSISTED LIVING AT BRANCLANDS



Update – Saturday, March 14, 2020

Linden House Residents, Families and Friends,

We are continuing to monitor the spread of COVID-19 as well as measures recommended by federal, state and local agencies, including CDC, CMS, Virginia Department of Health, Department of Social Services, and Albemarle County, to prevent transmission of the virus

Linden House does not have any COVID-19 diagnoses of residents or staff. While we continue to take appropriate infection prevention measures to protect our residents and community and frequently evaluate resident health, we have taken note of the rising number of confirmed COVID-19 cases in Virginia and concluded that additional steps are now appropriate. To paraphrase the Albemarle County Department of Fire and Rescue, in this very fluid and dynamic time, things will change rapidly and we will need to adapt accordingly in order to attempt to stay ahead of the curve.

With that in mind, as of today, we are enacting Visitor restrictions. *Only* essential staff and caregivers (such as hospice workers, private duty nurses and EMS technicians) will be allowed to enter Linden House and *only* after submitting to and passing an entry point screening process. In addition to actively screening for symptoms of respiratory illness and opportunities for recent exposure to the virus, and requiring on the spot hand hygiene, that process now includes temperature checks.

Visits by family members and other guests are being deferred until further notice. At this time, exceptions for immediate family members will be considered by the Executive Director for critical or time sensitive reasons, such as compassionate care situations. In such exceptional circumstances, visitor access would be limited to the apartment of the resident to be visited. Other areas may not be accessed, such as the lobby, activity rooms, lounges, rehabilitation gym, exercise gym, restaurant and the memory care living and dining rooms. Any permitted visitors would be required to wear a mask and use gloves for the length of their necessary visit. Strict hand hygiene will be required at point of entry and a gown may be required. Social distancing strategies, such as not kissing, hugging or shaking hands, and (whenever possible) maintaining distance from others of 3 feet or more will be expected.

All permitted visitors also will be requested to self-monitor for respiratory systems after their visit and, if any are noticed, immediately report them to Linden House.

We know that living with these limitations will be difficult. Our intent is to protect our most at-risk segment of the population by isolating them from as many sources of infection as possible.

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Please consider other forms of communication with loved ones such as telephone calls, FaceTime (on iPhones), Skype, email, text messaging, and even sending cards or letters. Please contact the front desk if you need assistance exploring communication options.

Thank you for your cooperation and the trust you have placed in us. These restrictions will be removed as soon as it is safe to do so.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Kristin". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Kristin Lovett
Executive Director