

TO:

All SBC Residents, Jacaranda Trace Club Members, and all Family Members

FROM:

Gail Chase

DATE:

March 11, 2021

RE:

COVID/CDC New Guidelines Update

You probably remember exactly where you were when you learned about the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001. You may also have an etched memory of what you were doing when humans landed on the moon on July 20, 1969 or when President John F. Kennedy was assassinated in Dallas on November 22, 1963. It was one year ago today, March 11, 2020, that the Director-General of the World Health Organization declared a global pandemic of COVID-19. We all remember that day well.

At that time, just over 4,000 people had died of a brand-new disease caused by a brand-new virus. We have now reached 29 million reported cases in the U.S. and 117 million worldwide. More than 2.6 million people on the planet have died of COVID-19 more than half a million of them in this country.

2020 was also the "most difficult year in history" for the nursing home and assisted living industry. On bright flip side of that coin, the head of a leading nursing home association calls the 90% drop in nursing home COVID cases over the past three months "astonishing," "amazing" and "fantastic". The combination of the effectiveness of vaccines and the inclusion of long-term care residents and staff in the priority group for immunization helped make this happen.

Here at SBC and Jacaranda Trace, we have been fortunate to have been amongst the first to be vaccinated. We have traveled a long and hard journey together. We have supported each other well. We are coming out the other side together. We should count ourselves among the most fortunate.

As of yesterday, the CDC has issued new guidelines for <u>fully vaccinated people not living in a long-term care facility (such as Skilled Nursing/Assisted Living)</u>. It is known that the authorized vaccines in the U.S. are... "highly effective at protecting vaccinated people against symptomatic and severe COVID-19." Additionally, communications are strongly indicating... "evidence suggesting that fully vaccinated people are less likely to have asymptomatic infection and potentially less likely to transmit SARS-CoV-2 to others." How long this vaccine protection lasts and protection against emerging variants is still under investigation. The CDC continues to examine this data and thus far it is promising. The CDC guidelines state that there are... "several activities that <u>fully vaccinated people</u> can resume now at low risk to themselves, while being mindful of the potential risk of transmitting the virus to others."



The CDC defines people who are "fully vaccinated" for COVID-19 as people two weeks past receiving their second dose (Pfizer or Moderna) or people who are two weeks past receiving their single-dose vaccine (Johnson and Johnson).

Our COVID-19 team has evaluated these new guidelines and after discussion has decided we can begin incorporating changes into our lives here at SBC and Jacaranda Trace. For our Independent Living residents, we are choosing a conservative pace with the goal to continue to a more "normal" life for all. Please keep in mind that these less restrictive changes are at your discretion. If you do not yet feel comfortable and want to remain more conservative, we understand and support you. Please also keep in mind, that these less restrictive measures are relative only to our campus community.

We are asking that you please maintain all mitigation strategies when out in the public community, not only to protect you, but to limit the possibility of COVID-19 entering our community campus.

Please also note that these guidelines are not yet applicable to our Skilled Nursing Facility, nor Assisted Living. However, we do anticipate State guidance around such licensed facilities soon. Federal regulators have lifted some visitor restrictions, but we are still awaiting changes to the Governor's emergency orders.

# **MASKS**

- Residents must wear masks in all hallways and elevators.
- During salon service, residents and salon staff must continue to wear masks.
- Non-residents will wear masks at all times, even if vaccinated.
- Residents can gather in the Dining Room, Fitness Room, Lounges, Grill, Third Floor Parlor (JT) and North/South Tower lobbies and remove their masks.

#### **PUBLIC ENTRANCE TO COMMUNITY**

- Temperature checks will continue with issuance of a wrist band to all non-SBC and Jacaranda Trace residents.
- Private caregivers and housekeepers must check in at Concierge and show proof of a COVID-19 PCR test every 2 weeks (as is current policy) or as an option, give us proof of full vaccination. Our vendor COVID-19 testing policy will remain in place as well unless proof of full vaccination is provided.
- PCR testing for our staff will remain as is, if not fully vaccinated.

#### SBC DINING PROTOCOL

- Happy Hour will resume March 15, 2021 from 4 p.m. to 5 p.m., in the Bay Club Lounge Monday through Saturday.
- Temperatures will be taken before entering the Lounge and the Dining Room.
- Expanded seating will be available in the Dining Room beginning March 15<sup>th</sup>.
- Pre-COVID reservations (elimination of 2 seatings) will begin April 12<sup>th</sup>.



- Sunday Brunch will begin April 11<sup>th</sup>.
- At this time, we will not be accepting guests (family/friends) in the Dining Room but do expect this to change in the near future.

# JT DINING PROTOCOL

- Happy Hour will resume March 15, 2021 from 4 p.m. to 5 p.m. in the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor Parlor/Bar area, Monday through Saturday. *We realize this is not the same hours as pre-COVID but are intentionally starting this way to allow for evaluation.*
- Temperatures will be taken before entering the Grill, Bar area and the Dining Room.
- Expanded seating will be available in the Dining Room beginning March 15<sup>th</sup>.
- Pre-COVID reservations (elimination of 2 seatings) will begin April 12<sup>th</sup>.
- Sunday Brunch will begin April 11<sup>th</sup>.
- At this time, we will not be accepting guests (family/friends) in the Dining Room but do expect this to change in the near future.

These dates for Dining Service changes have been chosen to allow us to increase staffing as well as train staff, thus enabling us to provide better service to you.

### TRAVEL

• At this time, the CDC has not updated or changed the travel restrictions and as such SBC and Jacaranda Trace will continue to enforce the current travel restrictions. If you need a copy of the current restrictions, Concierge will have copies at the desk.

We are optimistic that we will continue to move forward with these plans, but please understand that any reversal on the part of the local or federal agencies or the health status of either community will necessitate adjustments accordingly. As always, thank you for your help and please do not hesitate to call if you have questions.

GC:ljm