



Dear Family Members and Friends,

We are pleased to report that the Maine Department of Health and Human Services - Aging and Disability Services has finally released guidance on *staff testing, possible visitation* and other *community engagement* activities.

The purpose of this guidance is to provide the framework for Assisted Housing providers, such as Woodlands Senior Living, to begin the process of reengaging with the outside community.

We know this is very welcome news for residents and their loved ones who have been remarkably supportive and patient during this restrictive period of time.

The extent to which an Assisted Housing facility may engage with the outside community will be based on a number of factors, including COVID-19 surveillance testing protocols, COVID-19 conditions within the facility (absence or presence of cases), and the rate of COVID-19 cases in the county in which the Assisted Housing facility is located.

The guidance defines two sub-groups within Assisted Housing settings, based on a number of risk factors. Woodlands Senior Living's memory care communities are considered high risk, while our assisted living and Park Residences communities are in a lower risk category. The guidelines for testing, visitation, and community engagement are different for each distinct group.

We are currently working to coordinate the first round of surveillance testing for all staff. We are also working on protocols to best ensure we safely begin our new visitation practices in the locations where conditions will allow inside visits.

We will provide further information on the new policies, protocols and most importantly start dates for the institution of inside visitation in the coming days.

It's been more than seven months since COVID-19 forced us to close our doors for the physical safety of the vulnerable seniors we serve. We are excited to soon be able to invite you for limited pre-scheduled inside visits, to join us in making each day the best day possible for the residents we serve, and to bring peace of mind to you, the people who love them.