



## OUR ISLAND HOME

9 East Creek Road, Nantucket, Massachusetts 02554  
(508)228-0462  
FAX (508) 228-6875

June 15, 2020

Dear Staff, Residents, Family Members and Friends:

### *COVID Updates*

We are pleased to inform you that we continue to have 0 confirmed cases of COVID-19 at Our Island Home and continue to follow the guidelines set forth by the DPH, CDC and CMS. We had our second Department of Public Health infection control and practices audit on June 4<sup>th</sup> and received 100% compliance. We are expecting a third audit within the next 2 weeks.

### *General Data*

On June 4<sup>th</sup> CMS posted the first set of COVID-19 nursing home data. Medicare and Medicaid certified nursing homes are required to report COVID19 cases and deaths directly to the CDC. As of May 31<sup>st</sup>, approximately 88 percent of the nursing homes had reported. These facilities reported over 95,000 confirmed cases and almost 32,000 deaths. The next set of data will be updated June 19<sup>th</sup> and CMS plans to update the data weekly thereafter. To view the Nursing Home COVID-19 data, please see the following website: <https://data.cms.gov/Covid19-nursing-home-data>

### *Visitation*

We know how important it is to see your loved ones during these uncertain times, and we greatly appreciate your patience and understanding while we work diligently to protect your resident's health. Below please find an update regarding visitation:

### *In-Person*

- As the Executive Office of Health and Human Services Department of Public Health announced that as of June 3<sup>rd</sup>, long-term care facilities may allow outdoor visits with residents to occur, OIH is continuing to review these evolving guidelines and is working to finalize policy surrounding the implementation of a safe visitation plan for our residents.
- Scheduled Compassion Care visits are permitted for immediate family members and clergy for residents who have been deemed end of life and are receiving comfort care measures, per our Compassion Care Visit During COVID policy.

### ***Window Visits***

- We have resumed and encourage window visitation, if you can do so. We have a designated location for window visits at the end of our West Wing where we will bring your loved one at your scheduled time. You will be able to see your resident through the door and will be able to communicate with them via phone. We ask that these visits occur by appointment to ensure our resident's safety and to reduce overlap of visitation on the property.

### ***Virtual Visits***

- We continue to offer virtual visits daily by request, via FaceTime, Zoom and Facebook Messenger.

### ***Scheduling a Visit***

- If you would like to schedule a Compassionate Care visit, please contact Social Services, Laurie Mac Vicar-Fiske at (508) 228-0462, ext. 7407 or [lfiske@nantucket-ma.gov](mailto:lfiske@nantucket-ma.gov).
- If you would like to schedule a Virtual Visit or Window Visit please contact Activities Director, Ally Rowell at (508) 228-0462, ext. 7406 or [arowell@nantucket-ma.gov](mailto:arowell@nantucket-ma.gov).

### ***Family Council***

The next Family Council meeting will be held by a Zoom meeting, on Wednesday, June 17<sup>th</sup> at 10:00am. The Zoom invitation and link will be emailed to all family members, tomorrow, Tuesday, June 16<sup>th</sup>.

### ***Patio***

A big thank-you to the Friends of Our Home for sponsoring "Love Blooms at Our Island Home", <https://www.facebook.com/fooih> and to OIH staff Debra Bechtold and Christina Crane who gave their time filling planters and planting garden beds. The patio is coming alive again, with beautiful, vibrant flowers, plants and herbs, and our residents are so happy!

### ***Stimulus Checks***

As you are aware the CARES Act provided a one-time direct payment of \$1,200 to individuals earning less than \$75,000 per year, including Social Security beneficiaries. Under Medicaid rules a stimulus payment is not counted as income, and therefore does not change a resident's patient paid amount. The resident should keep the stimulus payment for his/her own use. Accordingly, the stimulus payment does not count as a Medicaid resource for 12 months and skilled nursing facilities will not have new access to these funds. For more information, please see the following website:

<https://www.cms.gov/newsroom/press-releases/nursing-home-residents-right-retain-federal-economic-incentive-payments>

***Voting***

All residents who had consent forms on file and were interested in submitting their votes for the annual town meeting have worked with our Activities Director to complete and submit their absentee ballots.

Please continue to check our Facebook page (OIH Nantucket MA) for daily COVID updates and send your messages, letters, photos and positive words to the resident email account: [ourislandhome@yahoo.com](mailto:ourislandhome@yahoo.com).

Thank you again for your continued support for our residents.

Best,  
Laurie Mac Vicar-Fiske

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