

**COVID-19 Update: April 8, 2020**  
**Additional Precautionary Measures**

As you will have heard through the media, we continue to see an increase in community transmission of the COVID-19 virus. This was anticipated as the pandemic continues to evolve. We are pleased to let you know that we continue to have no positive cases at any of the Thrive Group locations including our LTC homes, community locations or in-home settings. We want to be able to remain COVID-free as long as we possibly can. Therefore, we are continuing to increase our precautionary measures and screening practices.

**Additional Precautionary Measures**

Along with following all the directives and guidelines provided by our government, associations and public health authorities, we continue to urge our staff, (when not working), and the families of our clients and residents, as well as our own families and friends, to stay home as much as possible and continue to practice physical distancing. We continue to limit visits to only the most essential services. And we continue to emphasize the importance of handwashing. This will help slow the spread of the virus, take the pressure off our health care workers and the hospital emergency rooms.

In addition, we are adding the following new precautionary measures to our plans in order to continue to put the health and safety of our residents, clients and staff at the forefront of all we do. They are as follows:

**Universal masking of all staff** has commenced this week. This means that all of our staff will be wearing masks during shifts. This measure will prevent transmission of COVID-19 should someone be ill and contagious but not be displaying any symptoms. This strategy provides added protection to residents, clients and staff.

**No longer accepting food items or perishable gifts from family and friends.** At this time, we have made the difficult decision to no longer accept the delivery of food items to our long-term care homes or congregate settings. This will increase our ability to reduce potential risk of the virus entering our homes and community locations.

**Limiting Delivery of Non-perishable Care Packages.** We understand how difficult it is to be apart from your loved ones at this time. And we know that sharing gifts and care packages is a way of staying connected to your loved one. However, we must ask that gifts and care packages are limited as much as possible. Again this helps us to reduce the risk of the virus being transmitted into the home and community settings. We now know that the virus can remain on a variety of surfaces for up to 72 hours. Therefore, any care package deliveries for residents and clients will be set in storage for a minimum of 72 hours as recommended by Public Health.

As we move into the long weekend, a time when we would normally celebrate with our family and friends, I want to thank all of you for your continued support, understanding and cooperation. Please know that we are implementing these new measures, in order to keep our residents, our clients and our staff safe and healthy.



Steve Sherrer  
Chief Executive Officer