



## Ascension Living

February 17, 2021

Dear Ascension Living Residents, Participants and Family Members,

Almost one year ago, I sent you my first letter regarding our efforts to keep COVID-19 out of our communities. Our focus has not changed. Our goal is to keep our residents, participants, and associates safe and healthy – and keeping everyone informed.

**I am overjoyed to inform you that we are beginning to cautiously welcome back families and friends into Ascension Living communities.** Our teams have missed hearing your laughs, listening to our resident describe their visits, and seeing your faces. Visitation will be strictly based on state health department guidance and local COVID-19 positivity rates. In order to comply with state and federal regulations, a designated number residents will be able to visit for a specified period of time. Details regarding the community's plan will come from the community executive director. Indoor visits will take place in designated areas. We will continue to follow infection-prevention guidelines from the CDC, Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), and state and local health departments and request that all visitors follow these strict protocols. Please be aware that indoor visits will be cancelled if there is a new positive COVID-19 case in the community (resident or staff).

**I am also happy to share that 60% percent of residents and staff in our more than 40 locations have received the first and second dose of the vaccine.** As you may have heard in the news, within a few weeks of the launch of the Long Term Care (LTC) vaccination program administered through the Pharmacy Partnership Program in December 2020, new COVID-19 cases within skilled nursing communities have been sharply lower than the U.S overall new cases at any previous point. We are seeing the same reduction in positivity rates within our communities. These initial results are promising and support the effectiveness of vaccinations in preventing new COVID-19 cases.

We will not stop working to keep our communities healthy during this time and prevent the spread of infection while continuing to care for those who need us most. Our community leaders will continue to keep you informed of any new developments in your community. If you have any questions, please contact your community leader or email [AscensionLiving@ascension.org](mailto:AscensionLiving@ascension.org).

Regards,

Danny Stricker  
President, Ascension Living