



June 30, 2020

Dear Smith Village Family,

While the State of Illinois and City of Chicago have embarked on Phase 4, please know it is imperative that Smith Village sets the scope and timeline for reintroducing programs and services for our own reopening phases.

Our comprehensive plans are based on the restrictions and guidelines published by Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Illinois and Chicago Departments of Public Health, and Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services.

### ***New testing plan***

Today, the Chicago Department of Public Health informed us that our community is required to administer weekly testing for all staff members working in assisted living and skilled nursing care. The rationale for this decision is employees are in the community and, even when they are careful, they may be exposed to the virus.

- On Wednesday, July 1, from 1 until 3pm, all these staff members, who have never tested positive, will be tested at Smith Village. We will continue weekly testing for this cohort on Wednesday afternoons until future notice.
- On Thursday, July 2, we will test all assisted living and skilled nursing care residents, who have never tested positive. If all the outcomes for tests taken by staff members and residents this week are negative, Smith Village will advance to a 28-day testing cycle for residents who live in these settings.

If residents and staff members become symptomatic or think they have been exposed to COVID-19, Smith Village will make testing available to them.

Since May 29, Smith Village has been free of COVID-19. Our goal is to sustain that record.

### ***Provides variety of ways to enjoy time together***

At Smith Village, we are eager to return to daily life as we know and appreciate it but keep as our highest priority the hard-earned well-being of our residents and staff members.

We are delighted with your response to scheduled outdoor visits for residents. Please remember to make your reservation at least 72 hours in advance by

2320 West 113<sup>th</sup> Place ▪ Chicago, IL 60643 ▪ 773-474-7300 ▪ [SmithVillage.org](http://SmithVillage.org)

calling Lisa Madsen at 773-474-7316 for skilled nursing care residents and Meghan Maple at 773-253-5563 for assisted living residents.

As a reminder, skilled nursing care residents have visiting hours seven days a week on the lawn to the west of our main entrance at 113<sup>th</sup> Place beginning at

9:30am

1:30pm

10:30am

2:30pm

On Thursdays, we offer two more times that start at 3:30pm and 5:30pm. This is a reminder all visitors will be prescreened during a phone call.

While most people are thoughtfully complying with best practices for safety, remember to arrive at Smith Village wearing a face mask; observing social distancing of six-feet; use the hand sanitizer or wash your hands.

More and more independent living residents are taking advantage of several opportunities to socialize and enjoy some popular amenities and programs at Smith Village. They include The Oak Room, Fitness Center, programs and activities planned for groups of 10 or fewer.

In addition, our therapists have begun working with our team of nurses to provide a variety of revitalizing therapies for residents in assisted living and skilled nursing care. We are keenly aware of how the extended isolation of more than 100 days has affected some people.

***Follows all regulations***

As we expand the reopening of our community, we rely on your adherence to protocols and practices designed to abate COVID-19. To meet these standards, Smith Village screens all staff members before and during their shift; restricts all visitors from entering our building; and plans gatherings for 10 or fewer people.

Please send to [COVID19SmithVillage@SmithSeniorLiving.org](mailto:COVID19SmithVillage@SmithSeniorLiving.org) your questions so our senior staff member can ask the appropriate employee to respond to you.

Very truly yours,



Marti Jatis

Executive Director