

Goodwin House Public Statement | Jan. 14, 2022

Update | Goodwin House Infection Precaution Efforts

Below, please read a letter that we distributed via email to families and friends of Goodwin House Residents on January 14, 2022.

We're gearing up for more wintry weather as the D.C. area is expecting snow on Sunday. Our staff remain committed to ensuring that our campuses are safe and residents have the care and services they need. We have a snow plan in place for getting our sidewalks and access areas cleared and salted. We also have arranged lodging and transportation for staff who are scheduled to work and willing to stay on campus or at nearby hotels so that delivery of care and services is not disrupted.

Staff go above and beyond at times like these. You can warm their hearts by sharing a note of thanks. Send us your messages, and we'll be sure to pass them on! A few words from you go a long way to keeping spirits up!

Status of Campus Visits

We continue to welcome visitors of residents in Residential (Independent) Living. Please note that you should wear an N95, KN95 or surgical mask at all times during the visit. Surgical masks are available at the Reception Desk. If you need one during your visit, please ask for one.

At GHBC, due to an increase in COVID-19 cases, the Fairfax County Health Department has required us to quarantine GHBC Assisted Living, Memory Support and the Health Care Center. Unfortunately, that means visits to these areas are suspended until further notice. Compassionate care visits may continue.

At GHA, we continue to strongly discourage visits to Assisted Living, Memory Support and the Small Houses (Health Care Center) at this time.

We know how difficult it is to be separated from loved ones. We hope that we will not have to be in a position of discouraging visits for very long. We will continue to hope that the current surge will peak and case numbers will decrease so that the health departments can lift these restrictions.

We continue to keep our campus visits page updated with the latest information. You can [find that page here](#).

*We are committed to keeping you, residents and staff healthy.
Please join us in our efforts to keep our community infection-free.*



Updates to Protocols

During their Tuesday, January 11 meeting, the Infection Precaution and Planning (IPP) Team reaffirmed our current protocols. We summarized these protocols in a quick-reference guide that was shared along with this week's Resident Update.

This week we clarified how we define exposure to COVID-19. We follow CDC guidelines, and according to the CDC, you should consider yourself exposed to COVID-19 if you spent time with someone who has a confirmed case (PCR test or clinical diagnosis) of COVID-19 and your time spent with them meets these three conditions:

- **Distance:** You were less than six feet away from the person, **AND**
- **Time:** You spent a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period around someone or several persons who had confirmed cases, **AND**
- **Transmission:** You spent time with the person during the period when they could transmit the virus. A person with a confirmed case can transmit the virus two days before they start experiencing symptoms. If they are asymptomatic, consider them to have been able to transmit the virus two days before they took the test that confirmed their case.

Celebrating Martin Luther King, Jr. and a New Paid Holiday for Goodwin House

This coming Monday, January 17, Goodwin House will recognize Martin Luther King, Jr. Day as a paid holiday for the first time. While we have long observed the holiday as a day of service within our life plan communities, this year marks another step forward in our efforts toward increasing diversity, equality and inclusion in every aspect of our organization. [Read the letter](#) shared today from Goodwin House President and CEO Rob Liebreich to mark this special day.

Wishing you a cozy and safe weekend ahead. As always, you can reach out to us with any questions.