

Dear Residents, Families, and all our friends:

We first want to send our blessings to all who have lost a loved one to the pandemic and to those who have been recovering from coronavirus. We are entering a crossroad of tending to those sickened by the terrible disease while looking forward to the day when we finally put the pandemic behind us. We follow the data regarding daily spread of coronavirus very closely and assure all of our friends and families that as we ease the strict controls we had to put in place, our decision-making will be measured and data driven. Our mission throughout this ordeal has been the safety of residents and the health of residents and staff.

Memorial-day is nearing and there is renewed hope and optimism we can take from data that coronavirus spread is slowing, hospital admissions are dropping and less people are succumbing to the disease. We are planning, as is the state, to ease restrictions so that residents can begin to return to community life, and optimize the well-being of the oldest among us. We have pent-up excitement medicating our sadness and fatigue, that re-energizes us to want to get back to the mission of helping residents help themselves thrive in later life. All we kept hearing was "social distance", but our new slogan going forward is "be social at any distance".

Over these next few weeks expect to see the beginning stages of our grand return to the way of life we were accustomed to when masks can no longer hide smiles and a gloved hand is seen only in the kitchen. However, as we begin to loosen, we must abide by state guidance and our own policies and procedures which overwhelmingly favors decision-making that reduces the risk that a resident residing in our communities acquires coronavirus.

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To guide decision-making, we study data about transmissions and hospitalizations affecting towns around us and we question staff, tracing their contacts and ensuring that all staff appropriately self-manages risk of transmission while outside the community. This policy has worked well for us and we want to continue to be successful all the way to the finish line. We welcome input by all our families and friends as you are the best advocates for doing what is best for residents. Based on current data, our best guess is that by the end of June, our resident life will be buoyant, residents and staff alike feeling as we did when school or winter ended and our new found freedom uplifts us to the point of elation. You hear talk about a “new normal” in defeatist terms; to the contrary, at Everbrook Senior Living communities, the new normal in the aftermath of coronavirus is feeling triumphant for all of us doing our part in “slaying the dragon”, a priceless side effect being more kindness, compassion and understanding. Hold back for the moment, but get ready to party with mom or dad.

Yours Truly:

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Robert E. Kelley".

Executive Director