December 7, 2020

**TO OUR RESIDENTS, RESIDENT CONTACTS, EMPLOYEES, BOARD OF DIRECTORS & PHYSICIANS:**

On Friday, December 4, 2020, two residents (a husband and wife) in Hillside Assisted Living tested positive for COVID-19. This information was posted on our website last Friday. Contact tracing, isolation and containment protocols were immediately implemented. Within hours, the couple was moved to a Dallas County-approved, COVID-19 facility for the recovery process. All residents and all staff were tested for COVID-19 and have all generated negative COVID-19 test results. The second round of testing for all residents and staff will occur this week. In the interim, all visitations in The Hillside are suspended until the absence of COVID-19 is confirmed.

CC Young received our Cepheid COVID-19 testing equipment during October, 2020. We have recently received our initial supply of Cepheid COVID-19 test kits. We were able to use this new Cepheid COVID-19 testing equipment to rapidly test all Hillside residents and employees and not have to wait days or even weeks to receive test results.

Dallas County and the whole country are in the midst of the post-Thanksgiving surge. Infection and hospitalization numbers are projected to increase as we experience this “surge of the surge” and this virus continues to spread. Of course, holiday gatherings will continue to increase community spread of COVID-19. The bright spot in the coming weeks/months is that we have been notified by Texas Health and Human Services Commission regarding the delivery of COVID-19 vaccines to our campus. There are still many unknowns about this process: We do not know exactly when we will receive the doses; we do not know how many doses we will be receiving; we do not know which manufacturer will be providing our doses; nor do we know the exact timing between the two doses. We do know that Walgreens will administer both doses of the vaccine and will require a consent to be signed prior to receiving the vaccine. We have been made aware there may be some side effects like headaches, warm/sensitive skin where the vaccine is administered, etc. Certainly, once we know more, we will share that information with you.

There is reason for optimism about 2021! Let’s mindfully get through year-end and move toward a post-COVID-19 world together.

Russell Crews

President and CEO