Buffalo Lake Healthcare Center and Westview Estates COVID-19 Update October 2, 2020

Dear Resident, Family Member and Friends,

We want to let you know that we have been notified of a *presumptive* positive case of COVID-19 in our building. The presumptive positive result was found by using our facility testing machine. Because our facility has had no cases of COVID-19 so far, the positive test is presumptive and we are seeking laboratory confirmation. Our priority is to keep everyone safe and healthy. Please know we are doing everything we can to stop the potential spread of this virus.

We will be conducting facility wide testing on October 5th. This will include testing all staff/residents/tenants.

We continue aggressive infection control measures and screening procedures, which we believe will help us manage this situation as effectively as possible. We are working in collaboration with the Minnesota Department of Health to ensure we are taking all appropriate steps. In addition, we are following all recommended guidance from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Service and the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention to protect our residents and staff from this virus and will continue to take every action possible to prevent it from spreading in our setting.

Because of our change in COVID-19 Status here are a few of the additional steps we are taking:

- <u>Closing our building to all visitors</u> for everyone's safety. All essential caregiver visits and outdoor/indoor visits have been suspended at this time pending facility wide testing. Window visits (with windows closed), virtual visits and phone calls are always welcome. If you have questions or concerns, please call Michelle Paulson (320)-833-5364 Ext. 12
- <u>Isolation</u>: Any resident/tenant who would test positive or shows symptoms of COVID-19 is isolated to their room and placed on droplet precautions. These residents are assigned a dedicated staff team that will only serve isolated residents/tenants.
- <u>Contact Tracing:</u> All residents/tenants and staff will be screened for possible exposure to positive patient(s).
- Any staff member who tests positive will be placed on quarantine and will self-monitor all of their symptoms at home.
- All residents will continue to eat in the rooms and at this time activities outside of resident rooms will cease.
- Resident/tenants will no longer be able to physically go to the beauty shop.
- We continue to monitor and screen all residents/tenants multiple times per day for any signs or symptoms of COVID-19.
- <u>Continuing to screen staff prior to work and upon leaving</u>. Staff are not allowed in the building if they are ill. Any staff who exhibit symptoms are instructed to self-quarantine at home and get tested for COVID-19.

Communication is key, and we will continue to update you on any news, emerging issues, or additional changes in our operations via these letters and on our website.

Your support means more to us than words could describe. We are working hard to have a variety of activities that engage our residents and are doing all we can to facilitate alternative means of communication between you and your loved one. If you have any issues or concerns, please let us know. (320)-833-5364

Sincerely, Mark Rust Administrator

Kendra Hiles Director of Nursing