



Lester Senior Housing Community

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An Equal Housing Opportunity Provider



NOVEL CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) UPDATES FOR THE WESTON ASSISTED LIVING RESIDENCE SEPTEMBER 16, 2020

Good day. We hope that you had a good Labor Day Weekend and that you and those you care about remain safe.

The Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic has continued to wreak havoc across the country and the world. Just since our last COVID-19 update less than two months ago, there have been approximately 2.75 million new confirmed cases and 50,000 confirmed deaths in the United States alone.

There have also been two bright spots in successfully fending off the spread of COVID-19 closer to home during this time:

1. Our State of New Jersey has had less than 15,000 new cases and 500 confirmed or probable deaths; and,
2. ***Our Lester Senior Housing Community – both the Weston Assisted Living and the Heller Independent Living Apartments has had no new reported cases among residents since April and only one (1) reported staff asymptomatic case among Weston staff members during that time.***

With the positive trends, Governor Murphy has been charting a course for the State of New Jersey to relax the COVID-19 restrictions that almost certainly played a major role in controlling the spread of the pandemic. This is not being done all at once. Different parts of the economy and parts of our society – including assisted living facilities like Weston – are being permitted to reopen at different phases per the Governors and the Department of Health orders. If people violate the rules along the way or if there is a resurgence in COVID-19 cases, some if not all of the released restrictions may be put back into place. In fact, there have already been school districts in New Jersey that had planned to open the 2020-2021 school year with in-person classes that have already reversed course and are offering either a hybrid of in-person and virtual classes or only virtual classes.

In order to safeguard the health and safety of our residents, visitors, staff and vendors, the JCHC will also employ a similarly cautious approach to reopening the Lester Senior Housing Community. In fact, we have already taken certain steps to resume certain aspects of regular daily life at the Weston Assisted Living Residence, such as restarting apartment cleaning twice per month for those residents who want it and facilitating resident family visits.

The Jewish Community Housing Corporation of Metropolitan New Jersey is an affiliated agency of the Jewish Federation of Greater MetroWest NJ.

PROPERTIES: Jewish Federation Plaza, South Orange B'nai B'rith Federation House, Village Apartments of the Jewish Federation and the Lester Senior Housing Community, including: The Martin & Margaret Heller Independent Living Apartments, the Judith & Josh Weston Assisted Living Residence and the Aresty Family Pavilion.

But we will be able to move forward with these plans to reintroduce these and other parts of daily life that took place before the pandemic for you on a limited basis, as we move through the required phases and only if everyone follows the rules that will remain in place to prevent the reintroduction of COVID-19 at the Lester Senior Housing Community. For the time being, those restrictions include:

- **Everyone must wear a mask at all times, except when residents are by themselves in their own units;**
- **Everyone must maintain social distancing, remaining at least six (6) feet apart from others;**
- **Residents may visit with family and friends on-site outside of the building (i.e., no apartment visits) under the following conditions:**
 - **Each resident may have as many as two (2) on-site scheduled visits total per week;**
 - **Each visit must be scheduled 48 hours in advance with JCHC staff. You may call Keisha McDonald at 973-929-2731 or email her at keisham@jchcorp.org**
 - **Each visitor must be at least 18 years of age or older;**
 - **Pets are not allowed; and,**
 - **No Items are to be given directly to residents. All deliveries must be left with security.**
- **Residents may leave the property only for necessary medical appointments.**
- **All visitors must have already self-quarantined for a period of not less than 14 days when:**
 - **Returning from travelling out of state or visiting from another state identified by the State of New Jersey; or,**
 - **Showing any flu-like symptoms.**
- **Residents and visitors alike need to wash their hands frequently with soap and water.**

If all of us – residents, resident family members and friends, JCHC staff and vendors alike – can continue to take these common-sense steps to protect ourselves and one another, we remain hopeful that we will be able to keep COVID-19 away from the Lester Senior Housing Community. In that case, you should expect to hear our plans to resume meal service in the community dining room, resident activities including access to fitness equipment and reopening the beauty salon. On the other hand, if these rules are not followed, we will not be able to move forward with the reopening and violators may be suspended from visiting or having visitors for two (2) weeks.

In the meantime, we will continue to provide further updates relating to the Lester Senior Housing Community and COVID-19, including any changes in our protocols. In the meantime, should you have any questions concerning these matters, please contact Lester Senior Housing Community Administrator Anna Burke at 973-929-2727 or annab@jchcorp.org.

Thank you for your attention and cooperation and take care.