



TO: PMMA Residents, Family Members and Visitors
PMMA Home Office and Community Personnel

FROM: Bruce H. Shogren, President/CEO

CC: PMMA Board of Trustees, PMMA Senior Leadership

RE: COVID-19 Update – **“STAY THE COURSE” – Vaccine Update**

DATE: December 8, 2020

As 2020 comes to a close, I wanted to thank you for enduring the challenges this past year has presented to all of us and also let you know that PMMA is looking forward to the New Year. Especially in light of recent announcements that a COVID-19 vaccine should be available soon, we hope our PMMA communities can begin to take the necessary steps to safely return to normalcy.

We have done our best to summarize below the currently available information, and plan to provide periodic updates as new information becomes available concerning the vaccination process for both Kansas and Missouri. Based on the available information as of December 8, 2020, we are pleased that the PMMA communities are prioritized to be among the very first to provide COVID-19 vaccinations to eligible PMMA residents and employees as specified by the federal and state rollout plans.

On December 3, 2020, Kansas Governor Laura Kelly announced that an estimated 75,000 Kansans will be able to receive vaccinations by the end of the month. The first shipment of vaccinations is expected to arrive on December 10, 2020, with 24,000 doses, and the second shipment is expected to arrive approximately a week later with 49,000 doses. In accordance with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommendations, healthcare personnel and those who are 65 years or older will have access to the vaccinations first. Governor Kelly explained that the vaccine will be provided at no cost to the public, and this includes PMMA nursing and assisted living residents and PMMA clinical staff.

On December 4, 2020, the Missouri State Health Director, Dr. Randall Williams, announced that Missouri expects to receive more than 330,000 coronavirus vaccinations by the end of the month. The state of Missouri will distribute the vaccinations among long-term care facility residents, staff, and health care providers first. Dr. Williams expects the first shipment of vaccines will arrive between December 12 and December 15. He expects a second shipment of 105,000 doses to arrive on December 21, followed by more the following week. The state of Missouri anticipates to receive the same amount of vaccines in January as well. However, the vaccine currently is not expected to be available until June or July of next year for those Missouri residents who are not nursing or assisted living residents, clinical staff, or health care providers, or essential workers.

The COVID-19 vaccine requires a two-step process consisting of two shots. The first shot starts the process of building immunity protection within the body. A second shot is required a few weeks later to provide the most protection that the vaccine has to offer.

If you would like further information on how the vaccine works, the CDC provides guidance on the following websites:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/different-vaccines.html>

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/recommendations-process.html>

https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/different-vaccines/how-they-work.html?CDC_AA_refVal=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.cdc.gov%2Fcoronavirus%2F2019-ncov%2Fvaccines%2Fabout-vaccines%2Fhow-they-work.html

According to the current federal and state rollout plans, those eligible at our PMMA communities to receive the vaccine from the upcoming shipments include PMMA nursing and assisted living residents and PMMA clinical staff members. While the vaccine is not mandatory, **PMMA strongly encourages all of our eligible residents and employees to carefully consider** what these vaccinations will mean for themselves and our PMMA communities. As front-line providers of senior care services, our employees are among those at the greatest risk of COVID-19 infection, and our residents are at the greatest risk of death or serious illness if they are infected.

The COVID-19 vaccine should provide a significant means of better protecting all within our communities, including our residents, our employees, and everyone’s family members. The vaccine should also play an instrumental role in eventually moving toward resuming our normal operations, such as communal dining and our regular visitation policy – allowing us to once again be with others without such a sense of fear or guilt.

As PMMA receives the doses of COVID-19 vaccines in the following weeks, we ask that you please consider this special opportunity and the role you can play in reestablishing the safe and family-filled PMMA communities we all knew prior to COVID-19.

As always, we are most thankful for your continued understanding and cooperation in our efforts to protect all residents and employees and wish you the best this Holiday Season and New Year.

I leave you with the lyrics to my favorite Christmas carol.

*Silent night, Holy night
All is calm, all is bright
Round yon virgin, mother and child
Holy infant, tender and mild
Sleep in heavenly peace,
Sleep in heavenly peace.*

*Silent night, Holy night
Shepherds quake, at the sight
Glories stream from heaven above
Heavenly, hosts sing Hallelujah.
Christ the Savior is born,
Christ the Savior is born.*

*Silent night, Holy night
Son of God, love's pure light
Radiant beams from thy holy face
With the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord at thy birth,
Jesus, Lord at thy birth.*

God’s Blessings and Have a Very Merry Christmas,



Bruce H. Shogren
President/CEO