



Dear RHF Residents, Staff and Family members;

We are now in our 10th month of dealing with COVID-19 and the health crisis it has created in our country and the world.

Throughout this entire time the health and safety of our residents, staff and family members - has been our biggest concern. With that in mind, we implemented procedures and protocols in all of our communities that were a direct reflection of the guidelines the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) published for dealing with this pandemic.

In the past month there has been movement to get a vaccine out to the public. Our Skilled Nursing Home residents and the RHF staff at those communities are currently in the process of getting their vaccinations.

We have received the vaccine, ourselves, because we believe in the science behind these vaccines.

We want to encourage all of you to get the vaccine, too, when it is made available in your area. While the vaccine is not a panacea to the health care crisis we are now facing, it is an important next step towards making our community healthy and safe. It's the first ray of hope for many of our residents who have been so cut off from their family and friends over these past months.

What you need to know:

- 1) The vaccine is safe and effective. The FDA determined that the newly authorized COVID-19 vaccine meets its safety and effectiveness standards.
- 2) Two doses of the Pfizer vaccine given 21 days apart have been found to be 95% effective against COVID-19. Similarly, two doses of the Moderna vaccine given 28 days apart have been found to be 94.1% effective against COVID-19. Both vaccines were evaluated in clinical trials that included a diverse mixture of participants across the U.S. representing different races, ethnic groups and ages.
- 3) You do not need to be tested for COVID-19 before getting immunized.
- 4) The vaccine is available at no cost to you.
- 5) There may be temporary minor side effects after vaccination - but you are monitored directly after you receive the vaccination for any adverse reactions.

All individuals, including those who have been vaccinated should continue to wear masks in public, wash your hands (frequently scrubbing with soap for at least 20 seconds) and maintain social distancing (staying at least six feet apart) until we bring an end to this pandemic.

Working together, we can and will bring an end to COVID-19 but ALL of us must do our part to make sure that happens.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Laverne R. Joseph'.

Dr. Laverne R. Joseph
President & CEO
Retirement Housing Foundation

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Stuart Hartman'.

Stuart Hartman
Sr. Vice President of Operations
Retirement Housing Foundation



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