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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Americare Communities Have Plan in Place to Prevent and Respond to COVID-19**

Americare Senior Living has put an official plan in place to prevent and respond to possible cases of COVID-19 in their communities. None of their 144 communities located throughout Missouri, Kansas, Tennessee, Illinois and Mississippi have any known cases at this time. Based on information from the American Health Care Association, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the National Institutes of Health, to date the company has instructed its communities to do the following:

- Re-educate all staff on proper infection control procedures. This was accomplished through their online learning platform
- Implementing enhanced workplace cleaning procedures and have ensured adequate supplies of personal protective equipment.
- Implementing a revised visitor policy as of 3/13/20 that limits visitors to family a loved one at end of life or on hospice services, outside healthcare providers, and essential vendors and delivery personnel. Allowed visitors will be prohibited from entering the building if they are experiencing a temperature of greater than 100.4 degrees F, runny nose, cough or sore throat.
- Asking all staff and allowed visitors to complete a daily self-check including temperature when they enter the building.
- Residents will also be screened daily
- Restricting all volunteers and volunteer groups from entering the building
- Distributing a letter along with instructions on what to do if you contract COVID-19 to all employees, residents, and family members
- Review of Pandemic – COVID-19 and Contact Isolation policy with all staff
- Americare's President, Clay Crosson, will issue an official COVID-19 briefings to all community management staff each Friday (or more often if warranted) until the threat of the virus passes.
- Community and regional staff will follow local health department protocols to report any known cases of residents or staff.



**The health and well-being of our residents is Americare's top priority.**

**With the appearance of COVID-19, or Coronavirus, as of 3.13.20 we are revising our existing visitation protocols. These changes are in accordance with recommendations from the Center for Disease Control (CDC), the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and the American Health Care Association (AHCA)**

**Visitors restricted to:**

- **Family member visitors over 12 years of age, limited to one family member visiting a resident at end of life/on hospice services.**
- **Outside healthcare providers serving current residents**
- **Resident Ombudsman**
- **Essential vendors and delivery personnel**

**All allowed visitors must sign in and complete a wellness self-check upon entering the building and adhere to infection control instructions.**

**All allowed visitors must answer NO to the following questions before entering the building:**

- Do you have a fever of 100.4 F or greater?
- Do you have a dry cough, sore throat or runny nose?
- Have you traveled to an area where COVID-19 has been present or been in contact with a presumptive or known case of COVID-19?

**All Hometown Hospitality family nights have been cancelled until further notice.**

**We encourage family and friends to continue keep in contact with loved ones by phone, email, Facetime and Skype. We will help facilitate communication for residents needing assistance. If you have a specific question regarding your loved one's allowed visitors, please contact your administrator. Thank you for your support.**