

July 31, 2020

## Arbors Memory Care Declared Covid-19 Free

## Community Grateful to Staff, Families, and Local Health Authorities

The Nevada Department of Health and Human Services, under the direction of the Nevada Chief Medical Officer, has declared Arbors Memory Care as a Covid-19 recovered community. To receive the recovered status, all residents and staff received two negative test results with no new cases during the month of July.

We would like to take a moment to thank local health providers, especially Geriatric Specialty Care, the Nevada Health Care Association, and the State of Nevada for all the support, assistance, and guidance we have received during this trying period. To all our staff and family members who have given this situation their passion, understanding, encouragement, and care—thank you from the bottom of our hearts.

#### **Covid Prevention**

As the number of Covid-19 cases increases in Nevada and around the country, we must always remain vigilant in our efforts to help prevent the development and transmission of the disease and infection in our community.

Our building has been reconfigured to accommodate Transition Suites with designated staff for new residents upon move-in and for those current residents returning from the hospital. New move ins will receive our excellent care, meals, and individualized engagement activities in the Transition Suite for 14 days prior to moving to their permanent apartment. Additional apartments have been reserved for any resident should they become symptomatic.

# Our staff continues to follow national, state, and local health guidelines. A summary of those efforts:

- We have detailed and specific plans in place for a wide range of emergencies and illnesses. Our staff is trained in infection control practices and we follow these protocols every day. We have made sure additional training has been conducted with all our staff and that policies reflect up-to-date information provided by the CDC.
- We discontinued public outings and events since mid-March and continue to do so.
- Group activities were discontinued where social distancing could not reasonably be maintained, but individual resident engagement activities continue.
- Cleaning procedures increased. We have also purchased and implemented the use of the Bioesque's Botanical Disinfectant Solution and Victory Innovations Electrostatic Sprayer—a combination that can be safely used on all surfaces that kills Coronavirus.
- Medical appointments are continuing, and telehealth was implemented where appropriate. Residents will be given masks when they go to doctors' appointments and families are



required to wear masks and bring the resident directly back to the Arbors to mitigate any exposure to Covid.

- We have restricted visitation to essential medical personnel since mid-March and continue to do so.
  - Nevada remains under Phase 2 directives including current visitation restrictions, as imposed by Governor Sisolak on March 11, 2020. Only medically necessary professionals have access to residents for medical evaluation and ongoing care.
  - Effective Friday, July 10 at Midnight, several Phase 2 reopening opportunities have been reversed, further emphasizing that the risk has never been higher. Social distancing, hand washing, wearing a mask and stay at home measures must be followed.
  - Governor Sisolak's most current statement regarding Phase 3 is as follows: "Before expanding our reopening and entering into Phase 3, we must continue to allow ourselves the time to evaluate this new medical information along with the impact of reopening to make sure we're doing all we can to protect ourselves and the capacity of our health care system to respond to the virus."
- All who enter our communities are temperature screened by a temporal thermometer and must affirm a series of necessary questions in regard to COVID-19 risk factors, attesting they have no signs nor symptoms, and have not traveled to an area of outbreak. All essential medical personnel must sign in, sharing their contact information and agreement to policies regarding COVID-19. To prevent the spread of illness, all essential visitors are then taken directly to the resident and also escorted out of the community, once the visit is complete.
- Arbors currently has, and has had, all necessary PPE to keep our residents and staff safe. All of our staff are supplied with sterilized N95 masks prior to each shift.

# **Continued Support**

This experience of navigating and combatting this virus has been exhausting both physically and emotionally for our family members, our staff, and the local community. It has required an incredible display of strength and effort by our team members. The support and encouragement our residents and staff have received from our families, health providers, and local health authorities has been essential in allowing our team to tackle this virus.

We will need continued support as we adhere to strict guidelines regarding visitation and continued virus prevention.