

Coronavirus – COVID19 September 15, 2020 Update/ZERO CASES RESIDENTS & STAFF

To Our Residents and Family Members:

JASPER COUNTY POSITIVITY RATE:11.1% AS OF:9/8/2020
Staff testing currently is two (2) X every 7 days

We know many of you are concerned about the spread of COVID-19 (the new coronavirus) and how it may impact us here at **RIDGELAND NURSING AND REHAB; called RNC**. Ensuring that our residents are cared for in a safe and healthy environment is our priority.

CURRENT: At this time, we have had a total of twenty-three (23) residents confirmed positive. Of those residents, there are no (0) confirmed resident case in the covid19 unit, zero (0) in the hospital, eighteen (18) recoveries, and (five) 5 deaths. We had a total of nine (9) staff confirmed cases all of which are recovered. Responsible Party notified of resident result. We are thankful and grateful to all our families and friends who are continuing their prayers and support. **AS A REMINDER: ALL LEAVE OF ABSENCES WILL CONTINUE TO BE ON HOLD UNTIL SC-DHEC ISSUES A COVID-19 END DATE IN CONJUNCTION WITH GOVERNOR McMasters' OFFICE.**

ATTENTION REQUESTED: Being mailed this week is the consent form (front and back sides) for administering vaccines for the upcoming flu and pneumonia season. With COVID19 still very prominent, there is heightened concern and we want to have all consents signed and returned so we may proceed upon direction of our Medical Director and delivery of the vaccines. Contact Kathy Hogsett, SSD with any questions or concerns...Additional literature regarding the vaccines can be sent to upon request. **THANK YOU FOR RETURNING THE FLU & PNEUMONIA CONSENT FORM...HOWEVER, WE ARE STILL WAITING ON A FEW CONSENT FORMS TO BE RETURNED.**

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) have recommended a variety of steps that we are implementing to help reduce the potential for the virus to enter our building. However, we need your help in battling COVID-19. Below are some examples of how you can help protect the residents, as well as prevent the spread throughout the community.

Family and friends do not visit inside the center and only CLOSED window visits are acceptable. Out of an abundance of caution, we are limiting all visitors to our facility unless related to end-of-life. Signs are posted at our entry point to notify visitors of this policy. We are actively screening individuals, including staff, who are approved to come into the building. **UP-COMING: WE HAVE BEGUN WORKING TOWARDS OUT OF DOORS VISITATION BASED ON THE CRITERIA OUTLINED BY SC-DHEC AND THE GOVERNOR'S OFFICE. SC-DHEC MUST APPROVE ALL POLICY & PROCEDURES FOR EACH FACILITY. DETAILS TO FOLLOW UPON SC-DHEC APPROVAL.**

We understand that connecting with your loved ones is incredibly important, and there are a variety of other ways you might consider communicating with them. These may include telephone, email, text, video chat, facetime or other social media options. Contact Julie Crews and/or Tracy Thompson for these services. If you believe a visit to the center is necessary, we request that you contact **SHERI P. BOYLES – 843-726-5581, EXT: 114** prior to your arrival.

Please make sure we have your most current, emergency contact information. This can be via telephone, mail or email. We want to make sure we efficiently communicate with you should there be any new developments. Please reach out to **KATHY K. HOGSETT, SW – 843-726-5581, EXT: 118** with your updated contact information.

RESIDENTS, STAFF & VISITORS, please help prevent the spread of infection by exercising proper hand washing hygiene as well as coughing and sneezing etiquette. We offer hand washing and alcohol-based hand sanitizer stations throughout the building. Please avoid shaking hands and hugs with any individual. Please observe CDC/DHEC guidance of 6' social distancing, hand sanitation and masking. Please don't touch your face with hands. **If you are experiencing a cough, fever, sore throat, runny nose, and/or shortness of breath, loss of taste and smell, or nausea/vomiting please let a staff member know immediately.**

RIDGELAND NURSING AND REHAB is following the recommendations of the CDC on prevention steps, including following strict handwashing procedures, and in many circumstances, wearing gowns and gloves when interacting with residents who present symptoms. We also are staying up to date with the CDC recommendations as they may continue to change. In addition, **RNC** is in close contact with the local and state health department, and we are following their guidance.

We will notify you if any residents or staff are diagnosed with COVID-19. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact our center at: **843-726-5581 main line**

For additional information, please visit the CDC's coronavirus disease [information page](#).

Sincerely, **RIDGELAND NURSING AND REHAB 1516 GRAYS HWY – RIDGELAND, SC 29936**