



All Geer Families Covid-19 Update 4/27/2020

We want to inform you of one positive case of COVID-19 at Geer Nursing and Rehab Center. **This has not affected any Residents or Staff at Geer Lodge.**

We admitted a short-term rehab patient from the hospital on 4/20/20 that **twice tested negative for COVID-19 prior to admission.** After arrival, this patient developed a fever and was sent back to the hospital within 72 hours of admission. At the hospital the patient was then tested a third time and the results came back positive. **The patient was referred to a facility dedicated to treating COVID-19.**

We want to assure you that ALL new admissions to Geer Nursing & Rehab Center are treated as if they are positive for COVID-19 regardless of tests results for the 14-day incubation period or until they are discharged. Proper infection control procedures were followed while this patient was in the facility and based on case review with Torrington Area Health District and State of CT Epidemiology the risk of spread within the facility is low due to the strict precautions that were immediately initiated.

Resident and staff safety continue to be our top priority. We are doing everything we can to ensure we prevent COVID-19 within the Geer Campus, including staying in very close communication with local and state health experts to ensure we are taking all the appropriate steps.

We will contact you immediately if your loved one is suspected or diagnosed with COVID-19. **At this time there are no confirmed cases of COVID-19 on the Geer campus.**

We understand that you are concerned about your loved one, but it is crucial that we continue to restrict visitation per CDC guidelines to reduce the chance of spread of this virus. We also understand that connecting with family members is incredibly important to our residents. Family members are encouraged to connect with their loved ones through video chat, calling, texting, or other social media formats. To arrange a virtual visit with your loved one, please contact **Dan Rupenski via email at drupenski@geercares.org**

We need your help in battling COVID-19. Please visit the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) website to learn how you can help prevent the spread in our community.

We know this is a difficult time for everyone. We will continue to provide you with updates as they become available. Please know that we are strictly adhering to all directions from the local and state health department.

Infection Control Protocols include:

- all staff are screened at the front door, including temperature
- staff are assigned to one floor and do not float between floors
- all staff are wearing masks and gloves
- all staff continue to demonstrate proper hand washing and change their gloves in between visits with residents
- we are using technology whenever possible for staff meetings, family visits, and even Doctor visits.

Questions:

Kevin O'Connell, CEO (860) 824-3868 or koconnell@geercares.org

Cady Bloodgood, Nursing Center Director (860) 824-3825 or
cbloodgood@geercares.org

Sherry Schoonmaker, Lodge Resident Care Dir. (860) 824-2639
sschoonmaker@geercares.org

Jill Simmons, Nursing Recreation (860) 824-3831 or jasimmons@geercares.org

Tina McGarry, Lodge Recreation (860) 824-2608 tmcgarry@geercares.org