February 12, 2021

To Residents, Families, Friends, and Staff,

I hope this latest update finds you and your family well.

In partnership with CVS Pharmacy, the facility has conducted three COVID-19 vaccine clinics for consenting residents and staff. Those who have consented have received both doses of the Pfizer vaccine. As of today, 76% of residents and 51% of employees have received the COVID-19 vaccine.

The center has had no recent positive COVID cases for any residents or staff. Please continue to monitor the facility's website, http://solarishealthcare.org/locations/senior-living-north-naples/, for daily COVID updates.

The question of the hour is "Now that residents and staff have been vaccinated, when will visitation and guidance be revised?" The simple answer is "not yet". According to a recent call with Evan Schulman, Director, Division of Nursing Homes, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid, there are several reasons that it is too soon for any guidance revisions:

1) It is too early – we need to get everyone a second dose and wait two weeks after that and we are not there yet. The decline in cases began prior to vaccination so it is not attributable solely to the vaccines.
2) We do not know yet if vaccines prevent transmission. We do know that it prevents people from getting sick, but it is possible that a person who has been vaccinated can transmit the virus to others.
3) It is too early to know if the vaccines protect against the variant strains.

Visitation guidance cannot be changed but, we will as soon as we can. Additionally, small group dining and activities only occurs with social distancing and appropriate infection control.

Collier County COVID positivity rates have dropped below 10% for the past 2 consecutive weeks. Routine staff testing for COVID-19 continues on a weekly basis. As community cases fall, more visitation may be possible.

As always, please feel free to reach out to me personally if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,
Jennifer L. Iavarone
Administrator