

Sayre Christian Village Reports First COVID-19 Related Death

(October 20, 2020) Lexington, KY– As Sayre Christian Village works to combat the spread of COVID-19 at the Healthcare Center, they report the death of a resident (Female, age 75) in connection with this disease.

The campus is lit green every evening for all those that have passed from COVID-related deaths in Kentucky. Today, SCV will also be turning their logo green for the first time to honor their beloved resident. Chaplain Tyler will be holding a moment of silence and community prayer at 4 PM.

There are 21 residents at the Healthcare Center who are currently testing positive for the virus (19 of which are asymptomatic or experiencing very minor symptoms and 2 who are being treated at a local hospital out of an abundance of caution). There are 10 staff currently testing positive. To date, there have been no other COVID-19 related deaths on campus and all residents and staff at the other three buildings on campus are COVID-free.

“We have prepared for this day, although we hoped it would never come. I’m incredibly proud of the way our staff have responded to this swiftly moving, invisible disease. The way they have pivoted from standing guard against COVID to an all-out war against the spread inside is admirable,” said Karen Venis, CEO.

“You cannot possibly imagine the feeling when the test results start coming in and you see your SCV family, both residents and staff, testing positive for COVID. You want to cry, but you move...you just MOVE and put the response plan in motion, no matter how much time or resources it takes, knowing that we will sleep later.”

Residents and staff are undergoing PCR testing at the Healthcare Center twice per week, per local, state and federal mitigation guidance at the direction of our Medical Director, Dr. Richard. Because residents and staff are often asymptomatic, while they are screened and monitored carefully for any signs or symptoms of the disease, it is often not until a positive test result that COVID is even suspected in an individual.

Karen Venis says, “The disease is on the rise in Kentucky. It has always been a matter of *when*, not *if* it would infiltrate our campus. No congregate setting is invincible; we often forget that our Healthcare Heroes are not superhuman. More than ever, we need the community to rally in support of us. Our staff, residents and families need encouragement, we need prayers for strength, energy and perseverance.”

All COVID positive residents have been relocated to the designated COVID unit and are being monitored for change in condition or new symptoms. SCV is following protocols identified by CHFS, CMS and CDC to ensure their safety and well-being. SCV is communicating all updates to residents, families and employees through one-call mass notifications and phone calls. They will be providing on-going updates via the webpage (www.sayrechristianvillage.org/news), COVID-19 Information Line (859) 899-0831 and social media channels for families, media, and the greater community.

Sayre Christian Village continues to offer transparency and every assurance to residents, their families and staff that they will be following all recommendations and will act in the best interests of the entire community.

###

Sayre Christian Village is the only faith-based nonprofit continuing care retirement community in Fayette County. We provide independent living, assisted living, transitional short-term rehabilitation, skilled nursing services, and dementia care to more than 375 older adults. The organization operates on a beautiful 27-acre campus in Southeast Lexington and has served the needs of older adults since 1983.

MEDIA CONTACT:
Elise Hinchman
VP Marketing & Development

Sayre Christian Village
3775 Belleau Wood Drive
Lexington, KY 40517

ehinchman@sayre.us
859-514-0031
309-648-7373 (cell)