



**Virtual Roundtable Discussion via Conference Call
Sharing Ideas & Coping Strategies for Residents During COVID-19
April 7, 2020 @ 10 a.m. EDT**

The conference call began promptly at 10 a.m. There were 80 Providers on the call.

Bob referred to DAIL Commissioner Elridge's letter from April 3, 2020 which stated, ***"There should not be any congregate activities of any type inside of an assisted living community, even with social distancing, all congregate activities shall stop immediately. This includes dining, leisure, and grooming."***

Bob had a conference call yesterday with Commissioner Elridge, Buddy Hoskinson, KCAL/KAHCF and Leading Age. It was very clear on that call that the Commissioner wants to keep all residents in their rooms at all times.

Bob shared that Executive Director of a memory care unit shared with him that confining memory care residents to their rooms is dangerous.

Bob told Buddy Hoskinson, on a call earlier this morning, that we need an edict, under their signature, which states that the state requires all residents to stay in their rooms 24/7. Buddy is taking that to the Commissioner to see if we can get that directive in writing. The purpose for asking for this directive is so that each community can have a document from the state that mandates this in the event that a resident or family member complains about resident isolation.

In terms of modified activities to allow for social distancing, Alice Tucker shared that they're doing the following:

- Craft packets are being delivered to resident apartments to be done there
- Entertainers have performed where they can be seen from individual patios and porches
- iPads have been distributed to communities to have Zoom and Skype "visits" between residents and family members
- Happy hour is delivered to rooms via a beverage cart, with music playing, and special packaged appetizers
- Hallway bingo (residents stay in their doorway)
- Packages with seek and find, crosswords delivered daily to resident rooms

Susan Matherly has been doing a restorative program where care attendants are walking residents around the hallways one at a time, with masks. She asked if we really want a directive that confines everyone to their room. This would not allow them to focus on resident mobility during the period of

confinement. Others agreed, and Bob said that he will pass this along to the Commissioner (hopefully) prior to her writing the memo.

Michael Berg shared that the purpose of a letter from the State is to share it with a family member who complains about the directive. It should help take the pressure off the community. Susan agreed and said if they'll agree to the one-at-a-time walks she's ok with it.

Tracey Javid spoke with Carrie Anglin and Jane Redmon (DAIL) about this. She's using the gray area of "outside," which wasn't mentioned in the Commissioner's letter. Tracey said that Carrie Anglin (DAIL) said that a 10-foot "outside" social distancing is fine. She also said that each resident has been assigned a daily 30-minute time slot and that the facility is exclusively theirs for that period of time. They may freely walk around during this time. Tracey said that both Carrie and Jane have said this is fine.

Mark Lee said that things like this might be said by individual surveyors, but because of "he said/she said" situations, we should ask for a written directive from the state so stating. He agrees with the argument for finding ways to promote mobility.

Michael Berg said that we definitely need something in writing because the state is being very vague but requiring us to do something very specific. We're not mind-readers, so they need to be specific. Mary Nell Bouvier said that she agrees. If we don't have something in writing, the state will be the first to throw us under the bus if an epidemic breaks out in one of our communities. Candy in Bowling Green agreed.

Nancy at Magnolia Springs East said she wanted to address residents with memory care specifically. Cliff Whalin said that he hopes that the State is consulting with someone from the Alzheimer's Association, rather than one or two individuals. Mark Lee understands the concern but many of the general population residents have some degree of dementia and have some of the same characteristics of the memory care residents. He thinks that's why we need to specifically address mobility and the downsides of isolation.

Eric Johnson w/Trilogy asked if we can get some clarification on restorative feeding – i.e. one resident in the dining room at a time. Bob said that he asked that very question on a call yesterday and was told there is to be no feeding in the dining rooms.

Janet at Kenton Point has specifically asked Buddy Hoskinson about the bingo in the hallways and doorways and he said that that is considered a "congregate activity." Chris at Arcadian Cove said that she was told the same thing when she asked about music therapy, hallway bingo, etc. She suggested that since we're asking for a directive in writing, we should ask them to include a list of approved activities that can be done in our communities.

Someone asked if we've had any updates from OIG regarding Personal Care communities. Bob said not yet, but he has a call with them this afternoon. So far, the Inspector General has not come down as hard as DAIL. He wants social distancing, but he has not put out an edict that Personal Care residents must stay in their rooms.

Janet White would like guidance from those who are doing the one-on-one interactions with residents. Are the staff wearing masks? Bob said that PPE is hard to come by but that we should be using it as often as possible. Sherry from Bee Hive Brandenburg said that they're wearing masks and gloves and ??? when interacting with residents.

Maria Lee said that all of Paragon's staff are wearing the cloth masks found on the CDC's website. They've been taking apart the Filtrete 1500 HVAC filters and cutting them to use as filters in their face masks. Two have been given to each staff member so they have one to wear while the other is cleaned and disinfected.

Susan Matherly said that they're wearing procedural masks and gloves when interacting with all residents.

Shauna at Traditions at Beaumont said they've done the following with their residents:

- Garden home residents and AL – some like to sew so they're making masks using materials Shauna has purchased for them. They're also making bright and cheerful bags for resident walkers.
- Tuesday morning door-to-door coffee shop (like happy hour in the morning!). Items are put on a cart and rolled around to each resident's room.
- They've flown kites outside resident windows.
- They had someone come and fly an electrical plane on the front lawn.

Bob asked the group if this roundtable discussion is worthwhile and should be done regularly. The group agreed that it should be done and suggested weekly recurrence.

Someone said that these calls are a good idea but wants to know if DAIL/Buddy Hoskinson will have something in writing before Thursday. Bob said he doesn't know. It's in their court. They were having a Zoom call this morning at 10 a.m. to discuss.

Mark Lee wonders if a written directive should come from above DAIL, maybe from Secretary Freedlander. Bob will raise the point during his call with OIG/DAIL this afternoon.

Shauna @ Traditions at Beaumont asked if we have any opportunity to get a TV extension to communicate information to residents promptly and concurrently. Bob said that would be a closed-circuit device of some kind. Michael Berg said that it wouldn't be allowed to be installed by outsiders in a community right now and Alice said it would be up to each community to pursue this.

The meeting adjourned at 10:45.