



March 17, 2020

Dear Residents and Family,

We have received new federal guidelines from the Kansas Department of Disability and Aging Services (KDADS), Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to enhance measures at all nursing facilities and assisted living communities to protect residents from COVID-19 (Coronavirus).

These aggressive new guidelines to mitigate the spread of Coronavirus involve cancelling all group activities and communal dining, as well as keeping a six-foot distance between residents. We have already restricted visitors and nonessential health care personnel from entering the building. We are also continuing to screen residents and staff for fever and respiratory symptoms.

The Piper will best implement these new measures in each of our different levels of care as follows:

- *Assisted Living*: residents will eat in their own apartments and food will be brought to them
- *Memory Support*: residents will eat together, but will be spread out in the dining room, bar, private dining room, den and sunroom
- *Physician Directed Nursing*: residents who typically eat in their apartments will continue to eat in their own apartments; others who require more assistance will eat in common spaces with an appropriate amount of distance between them

These new practices will go into effect for lunch on Wednesday, March 18. We will offer options for meals, so residents continue to have a choice in what they want to eat. Staff will make frequent checks on residents while they are eating in their apartments.

We are thinking outside the box in terms of activities, as we need to limit big groups and keep a safe amount of distance between residents, although we realize this is a challenge.

We will keep families and residents informed as we continue to receive more guidance from national authorities. Thank you for your support and patience as we try to keep everyone at The Piper safe and healthy.

Sincerely,

Heather Callahan
Community Leader