

Buckner Retirement Services Weekly Update

June 1, 2020

Dear Buckner Residents and Families,

I am proud to start off this week's update with news that we completed COVID-19 testing of all residents and associates in the nursing levels of care across all six communities in accordance with Governor Abbott's orders – and I am even more proud to tell you that we completed testing approximately 50% of all our Buckner residents and associates in all levels of care.

We are thankful for the ability for community-wide testing, as it adds another layer of risk mitigation to our communities by being able to identify and isolate asymptomatic positive residents and staff.

Results will continue to come in over the next couple of weeks, as the labs across Texas work to meet increased testing. As of today, the testing initiative discovered two asymptomatic positive associates at Buckner Villas. A person who is asymptomatic positive for COVID-19 is not displaying symptoms of the virus but can still transmit the virus and pose a direct threat to the health of others.

Thanks to the initiative and our planning, we were able to quickly implement our isolation procedures and support our associates with next steps. We adopted the CDC's guidelines for "return to work criteria for healthcare personnel with suspected for confirmed COVID-19. Our associates will not be allowed to return to work until such criteria is met.

Our response procedures also meant notifying all Buckner Villas residents and associates in a timely manner, as well as our resident's authorized emergency contacts.

In addition, two of our associates at Ventana tested positive last week, prompting our response procedures and communications protocols to go into effect. As a result of our contact tracing procedures, our team quickly discovered a third associate who is asymptomatic positive. All three associates are isolated.

I know I've said it before, but it bears repeating: I am grateful for the frontline service of all our associates. Their commitment is admirable, as is the patience, love and support coming from our residents and their families.

If you haven't yet displayed a gold ribbon outside your home, I urge you to do so. The Going Gold for Senior Living campaign is about all of you.

Another way to directly support our associates is by making a gift to the Buckner Employee Assistance Fund. To do so, visit [Buckner.org/EmployeeAssistance](https://www.buckner.org/EmployeeAssistance). Any contribution is greatly appreciated.

Please continue to visit the BRS website (www.BucknerRetirement.org) for a real-time tracker of any PUIs or cases our community may have. Also available online is a list of [Frequently Asked Questions](#) (FAQ) related to the Governor's orders and our community-wide testing for your reference – and you may call 855-754-3338 with questions at any time.

It is important to me that you know we are looking far into the future with our strategy related to the pandemic. This is not a time for short sightedness. We are committed to serving our residents to the best of our ability today, tomorrow and for years to come, and we will overcome this together with love in our hearts.

Sincerely,
Charlie Wilson
Senior Vice President
Buckner Retirement Services