

Buckner Retirement Services Weekly Update August 4, 2020

Dear Buckner Residents and Families,

Last Friday, Texas Health & Human Services (HHSC) announced its plan to extend emergency rules related to visitation in long-term care facilities due to COVID-19. These rules, which prohibit visitors, now extend to Sept. 29, 2020.

We know how hard this is on our residents and their families. The effects of isolation and loneliness are something we take very seriously. We are committed to working with local and state government, as well as advocacy groups like LeadingAge Texas, to find solutions that care for our residents' physical well-being as well as their minds and hearts.

George Linial, the president of LeadingAge Texas, recently co-wrote an op-ed regarding this very topic that published in several newspapers around the state, including the Waco Tribune. I invite you to read his call for change: <https://tinyurl.com/LinialOpEd>.

In the coming weeks, we will offer ways you can help make your voice heard regarding HHSC's regulations. Please stay tuned.

In the meantime, I invite you to join an open webinar hosted by State Representative James Frank on August 7 at 1 pm CT. Rep. Frank will discuss LTC visitation with state medical leaders. To join the webinar, visit <https://tinyurl.com/RepFrankZoom>. Questions may be submitted to james.frank@house.texas.gov by 5 pm on August 5.

On a lighter note, I've asked our friend, Chef Stephan Pyles, to share one of his acclaimed recipes with us each week of August. These video cooking demonstrations are exclusive to Buckner residents and family members and offer comfort food recipes that I know we could all benefit from.

This week, Chef Pyles shows you how to make ceviche:
<https://youtu.be/5cYesyRhGRs>.

For daily updates of all PUIs and cases, please continue to visit the BRS website (www.BucknerRetirement.org) for our community tracker and timelines, as well as our lists of [Frequently Asked Questions](#) (FAQ) for your reference –you may also call 855-754-3338 with questions at any time.

We will get through these difficult times together.

Sincerely,
Charlie Wilson
Senior Vice President
Buckner Retirement Services