

Buckner Retirement Services Weekly Update October 27, 2020

Dear Buckner Residents and Families,

Texas is currently leading the U.S. in new COVID-19 cases over the past seven days. As a result, I have an important update regarding essential caregivers for our health care residents:

Due to the extreme spike in COVID-19 cases across Texas, all Buckner communities are limiting authorized essential caregivers to **no more than two visits per week**, effective immediately. COVID-19 tests for the first visit of an essential caregivers must be **within the past seven days or less** based on county positivity rates. Weekly COVID testing will be required going forward, unless twice weekly testing is triggered by your County positivity rate (please consult your community). Please also consult your community on the required protective equipment, like N-95 masks and face shields. We want everyone to have a chance to see their families, but we must try and minimize exposure to our residents.

In case you weren't already aware, October is Pastor Appreciation Month. I appreciate how our six Buckner chaplains continue to inspire hope, so I've asked Kevin McSpadden, the chaplain at Baptist Retirement Community in San Angelo, to share some words with us.

Chaplain McSpadden writes, "In Romans 12:12, the Apostle Paul gave us this great triad: 'Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer.' This could not be any more applicable than today. The Apostle's words are timeless and remind us to practice our faith.

"The current crisis that has gripped most of the world has upended all of our lives to some degree. In the midst of this great affliction, we are encouraged to be patient, not give up on prayer, and remember the sustaining joy that is ours in our hope in Christ. The Lord has promised: 'I will never leave you nor forsake you' (Joshua 1:5). In this difficult time, let's take Him at his word and lean upon Him."

Our prayers are with Chaplain McSpadden and everyone at Baptist Retirement Community as they weather this surge in cases. Our chaplains have been integral in reminding us to keep the faith during this extraordinary time.

To read a blog about the work the Buckner chaplains are doing in response to the pandemic, visit [Tinyurl.com/BucknerChaplainBlog](https://tinyurl.com/BucknerChaplainBlog).

Covid-19 continues to present daunting challenges, but sometimes we need to stop and reflect on all we've overcome together this past year. I am grateful for all our frontline heroes who inspire happiness every day – and my heart is filled with joy by you, residents and family members, and how you continue to persevere no matter the obstacle. We are truly stronger together.

For a detailed timeline regarding COVID-19 cases specific to your community, visit [Tinyurl.com/BucknerPandemic](https://tinyurl.com/BucknerPandemic). The following is a summary for quick reference:

Community COVID-19 Active Case Summary (Residents & Associates)

	Active PUIs	Active Positive Cases
Baptist Retirement Community	0	22
Buckner Villas	0	1
Calder Woods	1	1
Parkway Place	0	1
Ventana	1	1
Westminster Place	0	6

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

Thank you for allowing us to serve you, and God bless.

Sincerely,
Charlie Wilson
Senior Vice President
Buckner Retirement Services