

## **Buckner Retirement Services Monthly Update August 6, 2021**

Dear Buckner Residents and Families,

A national survey of senior adults found the vast majority are thankful for the fellowship and community found in senior living communities. In fact, feelings of loneliness actually decreased compared a similar survey conducted prior to the pandemic.

This revelation was detailed in an [opinion article](#) published July 31 by *The Dallas Morning News*. And while it's "news" to the outside world, I doubt it's shocking to you.

I've witnessed the way many of you have come together to love and support each other through this pandemic, whether it was through a computer screen or standing six feet apart with a mask. Your devotion to each other is inspirational, and I'm glad more people are starting to learn how special senior living communities are thanks to the people who live and work there.

That is why I urge anyone who is not vaccinated to please consider it. The delta variant is proving to be extremely transmittable and contagious, and just like the surge in cases across Texas, we are seeing rising cases in our communities as well.

Vaccine breakthrough cases are rare, and even when they do happen, the result is often mild symptoms and a quick recovery. So please, if you have a relative or friend who is still hesitant, have a heart to heart with them.

To be proactive, Buckner communities are increasing our cleaning efforts and **re-instating the use of masks inside for guests and associates** – and we are also recommending social distancing when possible.

Most of our communities are also **offering free Covid testing for the guests of residents in health care areas**. Please check with your community regarding the availability of free tests and the process to get tested ahead of a visit.

Even with all these measures, we will never truly beat this virus until most of us are vaccinated.

You have been through so much the past year and a half – we all have. You have proven to be strong and resilient, and it's time the rest of the country follows your example and embrace the values that make senior living communities remarkable places to live.

Regarding positive cases, we have continued our practice of alerting residents and authorized emergency contacts when there is a positive case. In addition, you may continue to access detailed timelines regarding COVID-19 cases specific to your community by visiting [Tinyurl.com/BucknerPandemic](https://tinyurl.com/BucknerPandemic).

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

Sincerely,  
Charlie Wilson  
President  
Buckner Retirement Services