



November 24, 2020

Dear Residents and Families,

All across the country, this Thanksgiving will look different than those of the past. As we limit our in-person gatherings, and continue to virtually connect with loved ones, we must remember our sacrifice during this holiday will be rewarded when we all can celebrate together, once we get past the threat of this virus.

As difficult it may be not to gather with our family or friends at the table this Thanksgiving, the reality of the situation is that COVID rates are surging to record levels each day in both Oregon and Montana. This is likely the most critical period of the pandemic to be vigilant. Even though our COVID-positive percentages across all of our communities remain below state averages, right now, a couple of our communities are fighting active outbreaks while some of our other communities have had no cases at all.

While most of us are healthy, some of us are fighting for our very lives. Someone who knows this first-hand is Steve McArthur, the executive director at The Springs at Veranda Park in Medford, Oregon. I spoke with Steve a few days ago from his hospital bed in the ICU where he has been fighting COVID-19 for two weeks. In [today's Town Hall video](#), Steve graciously shares his experience with COVID-19. We are happy to report that he has since moved out of ICU and is on the road to recovery after a harrowing battle.

While COVID-19 is serious, we also have much to be hopeful about. We are hopeful because we have been told by authorities that a vaccine is on the way. We are preparing to offer the vaccine to all of our employees and residents who choose to take it as early as the end of December. We encourage each of you to do your own research, so that you can make a personal decision to get the vaccine or not. I will be the first at The Springs Living to step forward to accept the vaccine, because I personally believe the risks of the vaccine are lower than the risks and potential lingering health impacts of getting COVID-19. We will be updating you with more details, such as which vaccine and what dates, when we have more information to share.

We are also hopeful because our environmental testing by EnviralTech gives us a head start on detecting COVID and Influenza by testing air and surfaces in our communities. Also, we have gotten better at preventing and fighting this virus, and our staff are more confident and effective each day. Rest assured that we are continuing to use our resources to keep you safe and to keep you connected to friends and family responsibly.

Happy Thanksgiving and be well.

Fee Stubblefield
Founder & CEO