



**To:** All Still Hopes Staff and Residents

**From:** Danny Sanford, CEO

**Subject:** Coronavirus Update

**Date:** July 3, 2020

Yesterday, July 2, 2020, we received results that indicate a full-time employee of Still Hopes has tested positive for COVID-19. The employee began to feel bad at home and away from Still Hopes. The employee called our Employee Health Services Nurse, just as our protocol instructs, to let us know of their symptoms. Employee Health asked the employee all the pertinent questions for contact tracing, and instructed the employee to not come back to work, and to go to be tested.

The good news is that this employee had not been in contact with anyone, staff or resident, without a mask in place, and the employee has been away from Still Hopes for more than 14 days, making it almost certain that the virus has not been passed to anyone else on our campus. The handful of residents that this employee came into contact with, again now more than 14 days ago, have all been notified, due to the fact that the residents are of the age to have greatest concern, even in this case, where the associated risk is at the lowest level. For these residents, their physicians are making any decisions about testing.

Once again, rest assured that the time lapse from anyone's contact with the employee stood at 14 days when we received the test results yesterday, making it very nearly certain that the virus has **not** been transmitted to anyone on our campus.

This news brings to mind the need to ask that all of us, staff and residents alike, take extreme caution as we approach this holiday weekend. This is THE time to stay close to home, keep away from crowds, wear masks, and socially distance at ALL times if you must be in contact with those outside your immediate family. All we have to do now is actually use our good common sense, and utilize the knowledge we have gained to protect ourselves and all those around us that we care about.

The real way we keep this virus at bay on the Still Hopes Campus, is for each person who comes and goes from the campus to be diligent and safe all the time, everywhere they go. Crowded spots are NOT the place to be. Even sitting inside a restaurant filled to its new lower capacity presents a medium risk environment for you. That is true because people take off their masks to eat and people spend a good deal of time located in that closed environment. If you go out to eat, do it at odd times of the day when the crowd is thin. Or, better still, go to a place with outdoor seating and even then still stay socially distanced from those who are not your immediate family.

Avoid public transportation of all kinds if at all possible, but if you have to use it, don't touch any surfaces, wear your mask, and use hand sanitizer as soon as you get off the transportation. Remember too, that your mask is effective ONLY when it covers both your nose and your mouth. If you lower it to talk, you are at risk and putting others at risk as well.

We are indeed a close family here, and we care for one another to a huge and wonderful extent. Let that be the thought that guides your actions. Keep your immediate family in your own home safe, then keep your Still Hopes family safe. Be smart this July 4<sup>th</sup>, so you can have a lot of future holidays in which to have a big rowdy time with lots of people, after we get this pandemic in our rear view mirror.

Stay Safe, Socially Distance, Wear your mask (over your nose and mouth),

Danny