



November 4, 2020

Dear Apartment and Cottage Residents,

We now will speedily approach America's top two All American Family Holidays, Thanksgiving and Christmas. 2020 is going to be an especially frustrating year for us to "enjoy" these traditionally high energy, high family contact, holidays. This, because of the seemingly never ending COVID-19 pandemic.

I know and appreciate that each of you (actually, I can assuredly say each of US) desire normalcy and we long for that to begin now, so we can attend our traditional Thanksgiving Holiday meals and other traditions, the way we always have. Right behind that we will all want the same outcomes for the Christmas Season. The fatigue we all now suffer, regarding the protracted period of keeping vigilant and safe from even our own family members, along with the simple fact that we want to live our lives as the social humans that we are, can at this critical time, put us at a heightened risk of having a very bad outcome, and that after we have worked together so diligently, so firmly, and had, thus far, a really stellar outcome for our Still Hopes family of residents and staff.

With much sadness and disappointment, I feel compelled to ask you all to please, please, stay this course of safety and diligence. We have indeed suffered through this entire summer and now well into fall, and in all likelihood will suffer into the winter, from being isolated from the hugs and kisses and the closeness that we all love and want so much to both give and receive from family and friends. Falling down on this important and daily work to stay safe and to be diligent about keeping six feet of distance (some experts are saying that as the humidity drops, and as our pulmonary systems become drier as a result, we need to increase that distance by a goodly margin), or failing to stay masked during even these distanced encounters, first puts each of you at risk for yourselves, but second, it also puts your friends and neighbors at risk as you visit the Still Hopes' common areas and make your way about.

While the positivity rate from testing in both Lexington and Richland counties were dropping, there is a bit of a surge in active cases near to us. We see this happening here at Still Hopes, with additional staff members missing in action from having been exposed, or actually having contracted the virus. We must remember that this is still the same deadly virus it has always been, and just because we decide to be close, even around only family and close friends, that is not a good way to stay safe from the illness.

My request is, first, that you make your plans, or change your already made plans, and enjoy the Thanksgiving Holiday right here at Still Hopes, with your Still Hopes Family. Andy and his team are going to create a Thanksgiving feast, using real plates, real silverware, and real glasses, inside the Palmetto Dining Room (if you feel comfortable with that), offering up a smorgasbord style plate of food, along with a great selection of delicious desserts. So you can see that being right here with your neighbors will be a really special celebration like we have not seen since March. Then, plan an outdoor, socially distanced and masked visit, here on campus with your family or friends that do not live here. Next, I ask that if you feel you must keep Thanksgiving away from Still Hopes, do so while maintaining the 6+ feet of social distancing at all times, and always wear your mask and always wear it correctly, over both your nose and your mouth. Avoid even "fist bumps" and "elbow bumps" as those cannot occur with 6+ feet of distancing. Don't hug and kiss your family and don't let them hug and kiss you either. I know they are your family and that both you and they believe that they aren't sick, but many people who have this virus never know it. Those people still give it to others who can and do die from it. Don't be one of those people. Wash your hands often, and when around others do it even more often. 20 seconds of soap with warm water, and that does NOT include the rinse time. Only completely dry hands, after

washing, are safely able to touch things, so dry yours well, and with a completely clean drying cloth. Try to keep to a well ventilated and loosely filled room, not bunched up in a room full of people. The more people, and the longer you stay in that setting, the greater your chances of contracting the virus if anyone in that room is shedding live virus. Remember too, that if you go to a place where there are people who have just come from an institutional setting full of people, like University, or if you will be with people who have recently traveled through large airports, they cannot possibly know if they have been exposed or if they carry live virus with them. That risk seems to me to be too great for you to consider, after you have put up with the semi-isolation and social distancing this long in order to preserve a long future with your family and friends.

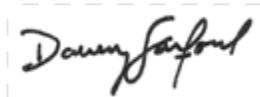
Finally, if you do choose to go out for Thanksgiving or Christmas, check with Tacey Gohean to see what precautionary measures you will be required to do upon your return. Remember too, that should you get a call a few days later, informing you that one of the guests has now tested positive for COVID, you will also then have to be tested and go through the 14 days of quarantine this necessitates.

The family member/friend that you listed as your responsible party is also receiving a letter from me, asking for their help and cooperation in keeping you and our Still Hopes family safe and virus free. Our staff members are also getting a letter encouraging them to keep their distances and to remain vigilant for a while longer. The way we have been as safe as we have been thus far is by asking and compelling ALL of our residents and staff to be mindful and considerate of the entire Still Hopes family. Thankfully, this is pretty easy for our staff, as they all love working with our residents so much. I believe the same is true for how our residents care about our staff as well. This part of our culture is what helps to make us strong for this battle.

So... bottom line is that we have come too far, and done too well, to simply relax our vigilance for the brief joy of a single Thanksgiving and/or a single Christmas, in 2020. We need to stay well for the many Thanksgivings and Christmases yet to come. It is time to stand strong and tolerate this unpleasant condition for just a while longer, so we can all look back and be thankful that we kept vigilant and all of us came through with our futures intact. It is then that we can hug and kiss and hold hands (even snuggle if you're so inclined ☺), and then we will truly have a reason to be thankful and joy will abound. It may well be that you want to plan a special Thanksgiving Holiday that happens as soon as everyone in your family has been vaccinated for COVID-19. I could certainly get interested in hosting that kind of Thanksgiving Holiday!

Thank you for considering this very important decision to stay the course; to stay close to home for the Holidays. I love each of you and want only what is best for you. And, while I'm saying Thank You, let me thank you all for the wonderful cards, letters, phone calls, texts, and just good words delivered along Main Street. I am so proud of this community of people and both proud and humbled to be your servant leader. Your words of encouragement and support are strength to my soul for this unprecedented journey we are on together.

My prayers of peace for that journey,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Danny Sanford". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Danny Sanford, CEO