

Dear APD Board Members and Family (11/19/2020)

As the situation regarding the Coronavirus (COVID-19) continues to evolve, we need to ensure that the health and safety of our residents, staff, visitors and family members are our top priority. In the coming days, we will take every precaution and put preventive actions in place as recommended by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC). We want to share a few of the steps we are taking:

- Non-essential visits / visitors to Merica House are being restricted until further notice. Essential visits / visitors (e.g. aides, first responders, food delivery, medical delivery, required repair & maintenance) are not being restricted. Essential visitors are required to wear a face covering (covers mouth and nose) at all times and should maintain social distancing (6 feet) whenever possible. If a visitor does not have a face covering, one will be provided. All visitors should complete the Health Department Log sheet upon entering Merica House. Questions pertaining to visitation should be directed to the Alliance for the Physically Disabled (703-671-7991, apdsuper1@cox.net).
- Merica House aides and staff will continuously clean using Lysol and similar products to clean and disinfect high-touch, high-traffic areas in MH, such as wheelchairs, door handles and all surfaces in common areas and residents' rooms.
- Hand sanitizers throughout Merica House will be filled and encouraged to be used by all staff and visitors.
- Every aide is charged with the highest standard of personal hygiene as well as taking responsibility for doing their part in maintaining cleanliness in their work area.
- We are ensuring our staff and aides will have the information they need to stay healthy, and anyone not feeling well is being asked to stay home.
- We will continue to follow the health and safety procedure including frequent hand washing with soap and warm water for at least 20 seconds.
- Any resident presenting with a fever and/or flu like symptoms will notify the service coordinator and their primary physician ASAP.

We are taking this public health concern seriously. Our protocols are based on guidance from the CDC and other world, U.S., and local health and government organizations, and their recommendations will continue to guide our business protocols and plans. We will continue to stay informed, but you can find current information on the **CDC** website.

We strive to keep Merica House and the residents, staff and aides safe. We are totally committed to maintaining a safe environment for all.

Thank you,
Annette Porter,
President of The Alliance of the Physically Disabled