



November 19, 2020

Dear Smith Crossing Family,

We thought you'd appreciate learning today how Illinois' Tier 3 stay-at-home advisory, which begins at one minute after midnight today, affects our community. Our shared goal is to minimize infection as we encourage everyone to truly embrace and follow all precautions Smith Crossing has put in place—while not confining residents to their apartments and villas.

As you know, the daily nationwide count of new COVID-19 cases is growing exponentially. For the first time, that count exceeded 100,000 new cases in early November. Now, it has catapulted to more than new 160,000 cases every day. Illinois is among the 47 States now experiencing a surge.

There is nothing new about any of these temporary adjustments we ask everyone to follow through Wednesday, December 2, when Governor JB Pritzker plans to lift this advisory.

We are not alone in changing our daily lives. All Illinois citizens now are encouraged to avoid all non-essential activities and only leave home when absolutely necessary. Healthcare experts also advise that it's prudent to not invite other people, even family members, into a person's home during Tier 3. They suggest relying on ways to connect virtually with family and friends.

Please do you part to protect all of us

In addition to wearing a face mask when residents leave their home, all residents must properly wear their mask when any staff member enters their apartment or villa for any reason.

For assisted living, memory care and skilled nursing care residents

- All outdoor and indoor visits in our licensed areas are suspended
- Still allowed are visits by
 - Essential caregivers
 - Families, spending compassionate care time here, are asked to first call Amy Majcina at 708-326-2310
- We are delivering breakfast, lunch and dinner to residents
- We cancelled all small group activities and closed the salon
- Our staff is more frequently visiting with residents in their apartments
- We increased the variety of programs, including informative and entertaining broadcasts, now available on Channel 3
- We introduced activities in hallways so residents can enjoy ways of being together while observing social distancing

For independent living residents

- We continue to offer 45-minute lobby visits when scheduled with the Receptionist
- Family compassionate care visits must be approved by Amie Kamba at extension 2329
- While we closed seating in the Dining Room
 - Grab-and-go meals are available at the Bistro and the Dining Room
 - Dinner is delivered upon request by calling extension 2317

- We continue to close The Oak Room, Salon and Emilie's Store
- We have suspended all programs except live broadcasts on Channel 36
- We are updating this month's calendar to adjust some of the activities initially planned for the balance of November and will distribute it soon

Enjoy your Thanksgiving here

On Thanksgiving Day starting at 10am, our staff competes with the annual Macy's parade as they walk through the hallways to show off the floats they create to brighten our collective spirit. Independent living residents should tune into Channel 36 to watch our staff parade across the stage as they showcase their floats before they head to the hallways of other settings.

In addition to this morning festival, our Dining Services team is preparing a traditional Thanksgiving dinner, with a few special flourishes, to be delivered to all residents to enjoy here between noon and 2pm next Thursday.

- Beautifully plated meals will be delivered to residents in all healthcare settings
- Catering boxes packed with containers are set for residents to transfer to their own china while they set festive tables in their own homes

For the evening meal, we will deliver lighter fare in box lunches to everyone.

Make a difference by following precautions

Smith Crossing requires everyone in our community to follow these basic practices to abate the spread of the virus that include

- Wearing a mask, observing social distancing at all times, and following hand-hygiene and sanitation practices including using supplies provided to disinfect the visitation area
- Quarantining for 14 days if an employee, resident and prospective visitor has visited any hot spot designated every Tuesday by the City of Chicago

Stay in touch with us

During this period of recalibrating our daily life here, please communicate with us by writing to COVID19SmithCrossing@SmithSeniorLiving.org so a senior staff member can respond to you.

We are grateful to each and every one of you for doing your best to think and act with caution in the midst of a global pandemic—and to count the blessings we enjoy.

Very truly yours,

Amanda Mauceri

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Executive Director