



Independent Living
Personal Care
Skilled Nursing Care

147 West State Street
Kennett Square, PA 19348

(610) 444-2577
www.friendshomeinkennett.org

To Our Employees, Residents and Families:

We know some of you are concerned about the spread of COVID-19 (the new coronavirus) and how it may impact us here at Friends Home in Kennett. Ensuring our staff and residents are in a safe and healthy environment is our first priority. At this time, we don't have any cases in our community. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Department of Health (DOH) have recommended a variety of steps that we are implementing to help reduce the potential for the virus to enter our building. However, we need your help in battling COVID-19. Below are our guidelines of how we can all help protect yourselves and our residents, as well as prevent the spread throughout the community.

1. **Sick employees should stay home.** At this time, we request that you stay home if you have any symptoms of respiratory illness. Those symptoms include cough, fever, sore throat, runny nose, and/or shortness of breath. Please refer to the new, temporary PTO policy that has been implemented during this pandemic.
2. **Notify a nurse supervisor if you develop respiratory symptoms while at work.** These include cough, fever, sore throat, runny nose, and/or shortness of breath.
3. **Practice proper hand washing hygiene.** All employees should wash their hands for at least 20 seconds or use alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains at least 60-95% alcohol upon entering the building and before and after interaction with residents. Soap and water should be used preferentially if hands are visibly dirty.
4. **Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when coughing or sneezing.** Please review the [CDC's information on coughing and sneezing etiquette.](#)
5. **Perform routine environmental cleaning.** Routinely clean all frequently touched surfaces in the workplace, such as workstations, countertops, and doorknobs. Use the cleaning agents that are usually used in these areas and follow the directions on the label. No special cleaning is necessary for COVID-19. Our facilities department has been implementing the extensive flu cleaning protocol since March 3rd.

The Friends Home in Kennett is following the recommendations of the CDC and DOH by monitoring all residents twice a day for potential symptoms. We have canceled all community trips and outside vendors. We will be canceling all hairdresser appointments at this time and asking our home care and hospice providers to assign dedicated employees to our building. We are prohibiting outside visitors from coming into the building unless absolutely necessary. Please call if you are requesting an exception and we will have our infectious disease specialist assess the situation. If you are dropping off needed supplies or medications for your loved one, please wait in the vestibule and call either the Linden Hall nurses station extension 206 or the Health Center extension 209 and someone will come and pick up the items.

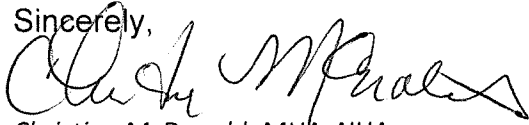
We have been actively screening individuals—including staff and external vendors—who enter. We are posting signs on our entryway doors to notify visitors of this policy and request that they not enter the building.

We also are staying up to date with the CDC recommendations as they may continue to change. In addition, the Friends Home in Kennett is in close contact with the local and state health department and are following their guidance.

We will notify you if any residents or staff are diagnosed with COVID-19. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact myself, Christine McDonald, at extension 202 or my cell phone 610-457-9214.

For additional information, please visit the CDC's coronavirus disease [information page](#).

Sincerely,



Christine McDonald, MHA, NHA

Executive Director

Friends Home in Kennett

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Friends Home
in Kennett

Where friends become family.