The current COVID-19 outbreak situation means that it is critical that we take every precaution possible. We must prevent this virus from entering our building. Protecting our residents’ health and safety is our top priority. The CDC has done a careful review of the death rate in the elderly, especially those with dementia or chronic diseases. Experts are recommending we take action to limit individuals from entering our building and to ensure sick employees stay home.

At this time, we request that family and friends do not visit FACILITY NAME. There is a risk that people who appear healthy will enter long-term care facilities and infect residents.

We are posting signs on our entryway doors to notify visitors of this policy and actively screening individuals, including staff, who need to come into the building. All doors will be locked as a way to funnel any necessary visitors through our screening station in our main foyer. Residents and families should consider not taking residents out of the building at this time.

The World Health Organization report estimates the mortality rate at 21.9% for those over 80, but at the nursing home in Washington state, 50 residents have tested positive for the COVID-19 virus and 19 of those have died, a 38% mortality rate. This highlights the fragility of long-term care residents. Studies show enacting these preventative measures slows the spread of the virus.

We understand that connecting with your loved ones is incredibly important, and there are a variety of other ways you might consider communicating with them. These may include telephone, email, text, video chat or social media.

Residents, please help prevent the spread of infection by exercising proper hand-washing hygiene as well as coughing and sneezing etiquette. Please also avoid shaking hands and hugs with any individual. For your own protection, we strongly urge you to limit your exposure outside the community. If you are experiencing a cough, fever, sore throat, runny nose, and/or shortness of breath, please let a staff member know immediately.