



414 S. Wesley Ave. Mt. Morris, IL 61054 • 815-734-4103

Update 10/5/20

Dear resident/resident representative/community member,

On September 29, Governor JB Pritzker and the Illinois Department of Public Health announced COVID-19 resurgence mitigations would be implemented in Region 1, the northwestern most counties in Illinois beginning Saturday, October 3. Mitigation primarily included restrictions on bars and restaurants and meetings, social events and gatherings.

On Thursday afternoon, however, IDPH announced additional restrictions on Region 1 nursing homes. While Region 1 is in mitigation and for 14 days following the lifting of mitigation, nursing homes cannot advance in the nursing home reopening phases. Thankfully, Pinecrest had already reached phase 3 of the nursing home reopening plan (the highest phase).

However, IDPH went on to state that nursing homes in phase 3 must suspend indoor visits until mitigation is lifted and for 14 days following. While this does not affect visits for hospice/end-of-life situations and exceptions for compassionate reasons, it does mean that Pinecrest must suspend its indoor Park and Chat visits at this time. We are able to continue outdoor Park and Chats. We understand the concern with outdoor visits due to the changing temperatures. This week, it is supposed to warm up a bit and we plan to hold Park and Chats outdoors as scheduled.

Staff members are working on an outdoor solution for visits that will allow our residents to be protected from the weather. We plan to have this solution in place in time for the outdoor Park and Chats visits during the week of October 12. Due to changes that must be made to keep residents sheltered from the weather, we will need to adjust the schedule to just one resident visit at a time. We will try to increase the hours or days that we hold visits so that we can still accommodate the same number of residents each week. Additionally, we are working to increase the number of weekend days that we can offer visits.

Families and Friends desiring a visit with a resident should sign up through the Pinecrest website, www.pinecrestcommunity.org, for a Park and Chat visit. You may also call Pinecrest's receptionist Monday through Friday from 8 am-4 pm for assistance.

Pinecrest will continue to provide updates on our website at <https://www.pinecrestcommunity.org/Pinecrest-Information/COVID-19-pandemic-information> . New updates will also be referenced on the Pinecrest Community Facebook page with a link to the update. If you are unable to access our website, please notify us at 815-734-4103 and we will mail you the updates.

If you have any questions about the information in this letter, please do not hesitate to call or email me at flabash@pinecrestcommunity.org . You may also contact Jolene LeClere, Administrator of Health Services, at 815-734-4103 or email jleclere@pinecrestcommunity.org. Thank you for your continued support and prayers for the safety of our residents and staff. Together we are stronger!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ferol J. Labash".

Ferol J. Labash
Chief Executive Officer