



UPDATE 6/5/20

Residents/Family/Friends,

- We continue to have no known cases of covid-19!
- The Ohio Department of Medicaid released information indicating that a stimulus check does **not** count as income and therefore does not impact the Medicaid Resource Assessment conducted annually. The facility will be depositing checks that we receive into the Resident Trust Accounts and tagging the deposit as a stimulus check. After consulting with Hamilton County Job and Family Services for additional guidance on how/what they will be looking for from a documentation perspective during the renewal process, we were informed that for accounts that have had a stimulus check deposited into them they will simply deduct \$1,200 from the total balance for 12 months when calculating resources. Simply put, HCJFS will ignore the stimulus check as a financial asset for a year which gives people an extended timeframe to spend the money which is good news.
- The facility has obtained three additional I-Pads to assist with video communication during these unprecedented times. Activities and Nursing will utilize them as needed for social chats in addition to tele-medicine sessions.
- To date there has been no change to the visitation restrictions in place as ordered by The Ohio Department of Health for our setting. We are aware of the change for Assisted Living and ICF settings going into effect next week and have begun to brainstorm what outdoor visitation may look like at BWH in the event a similar directive is passed along to us sometime in the future. We will continue to keep everyone posted on this important topic as information becomes available.

As always, if you have any questions/comments/concerns, please feel free to contact myself, Scot Harmon (Administrator) or Patricia Clark (CEO).

Sincerely,

Scot Harmon,  
Administrator

Patricia A. Clark, DM  
CEO, Administrator



6/12/20 Update

Residents/Family/Friends,

- **Status:** We continue to have no known cases of Covid-19!
- **Management of Stimulus Checks:** BWH will not be managing the spending of stimulus check monies deposited into a Resident Trust Account (RTA). Similar to HCJFS, during our monthly review of RTAs any account which has had a stimulus check deposited into it will have \$1,200 deducted from the balance before determining if an over resource letter needs to be distributed. We recommend that Residents/Family monitor the RTA balances over the next year and begin to spend down if needed in ten months. Statements are printed and distributed quarterly. Alternatively, you can contact Heather at any time for an account balance update.
- **Family/Friend Reimbursement from RTA:** Friendly reminder that family/friends who assist a Resident spend money from an RTA can only be reimbursed after a receipt has been submitted. During these atypical times, feel free to mail receipts to the facility addressed to Geraldine for processing. Residents can request cash from the Receptionists prior to purchasing any items.
- **HCJFS Renewal Process:** After a three-month hiatus, HCJFS has re-initiated the renewal process. It is expected that there may be shorter than usual deadlines for submitting resource assessment documents related to the backlog of renewals that need to be processed. It would be greatly appreciated if you are contacted by Heather for data that this task be prioritized to ensure critical data is submitted timely as approval of extensions is not a guarantee.
- **Drop Offs:** **Friendly reminder that family/friends are not permitted to place takeout food into the drop off cart for delivery to a resident. All food items placed into the cart must be food safe at room temperate for up to 24 hours before delivery. Any items observed that do not meet this food safety standard will be thrown away.** Additionally, the drop off program runs Monday – Thursday. It is not appropriate to drop something off over the weekend and call/request someone from Nursing retrieve the item from the cart for delivery.

As always, if you have any questions/comments/concerns, please feel free to contact myself, Scot Harmon (Administrator) or Patricia Clark (CEO).

Sincerely,

Scot Harmon,  
Administrator

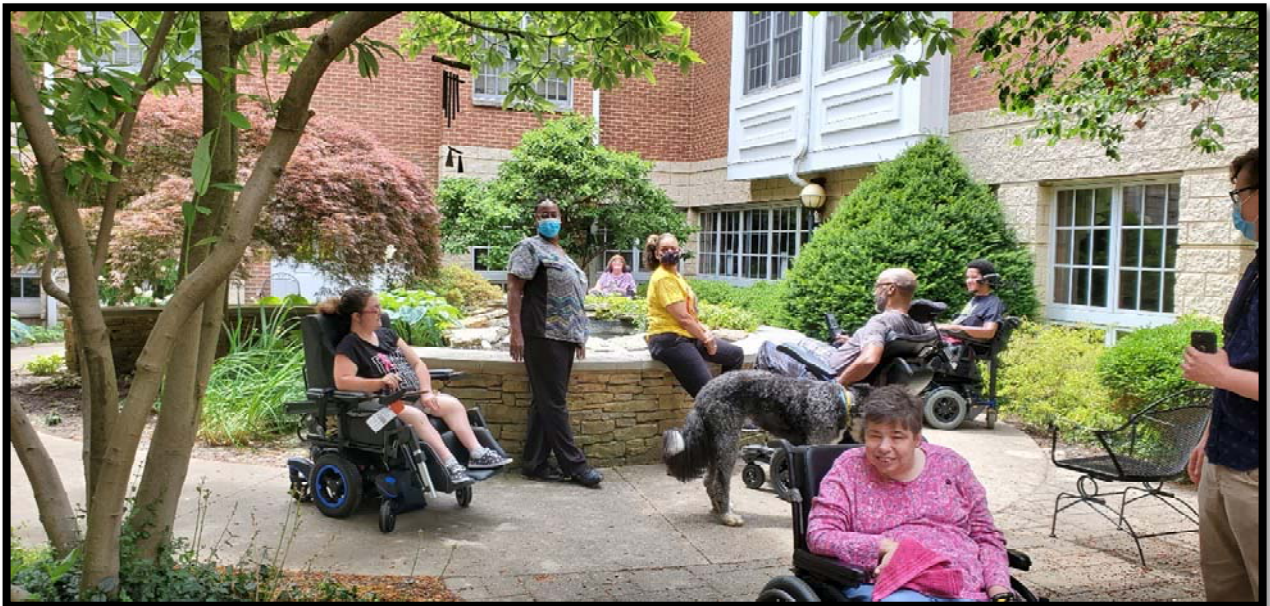
Patricia A. Clark, DM  
CEO, Administrator



## 6/19/20 Update

Residents/Family/Friends,

- **Status:** We continue with no known cases of COVID-19!
- **Ohio Department of Health:** A representative from the Ohio Department of Health visited last week to assess our current infection control procedures in relation to COVID-19. She was very complimentary of the measures taken to protect our residents and had no recommendations for improvement.
- **Visitation:** To date there has been no change to the visitation restrictions in place as ordered by The Ohio Department of Health for our setting. We will continue to monitor the situation and provide an update of changes when they occur.
- **Porch/Courtyard Access:** Friendly reminder that porch/courtyard access currently begins at 9:00 AM and ends at 4:00 PM. Residents will be asked by Security to return to their floor at the time they initiate locking these areas for security/safety purposes. On a positive note, we are exploring ways to extend these hours and hope to have good news soon to pass along to everyone.



As always, if you have any questions/comments/concerns, please feel free to contact myself, Scot Harmon (Administrator) or Patricia Clark (CEO).

Sincerely,

Scot Harmon,  
Administrator

Patricia A. Clark, DM  
CEO, Administrator



6/26/20 Update

Residents/Family/Friends/Staff,

- **Status:** We continue to have no known cases of COVID-19!
- **Covid-19 Testing:** On Wednesday (6/26/20) the Ohio National Guard was at the facility conducting most of the COVID-19 testing mandated by The Ohio Department of Health for Long-Term Care Facilities. **We are happy to report that 100% of the test results came back negative!** There are a small number of staff who were unable to come to the facility on Wednesday due to the short notice given to us by the Ohio National Guard however we have until 7/6/20 for these individuals to obtain a negative test results before modifying the schedule. Thank you to everyone for all that has been done to help keep the Residents and Staff safe. We encourage everyone to utilize best practices so that this amazing news can continue.
- **Quarantine Parameters:** As the pandemic continues, more residents are needing to see a medical specialist in person. Any Resident who leaves the facility for any reason automatically begins a 14-day quarantine upon their return, for the safety of all who reside here. During this period, Residents are not permitted to leave their room for any reason and the door is to remain closed. Increased screening by Nursing to monitor the development of symptoms will occur. Housekeeping will also perform a more in-depth daily cleaning of the room. All medications and meals will be served in their room, bed baths will be offered daily. To conserve PPE, staff entry into the room will be limited to that which is medically necessary.
- **Festive Beverage:** The “Coffee Cart” donned a shade of blue on Wednesday while it served Tidal Wave Punch with the option for a rum twist if desired (and with an appropriate order) which was enjoyed by many Residents.
- **Visitation:** On Tuesday, Governor DeWine indicated during his press conference that members of his advisory committees continue to discuss visitation for Long- Term Care Facilities. To date, the original order remains in place. If you are interested in watching any of the Governor’s press conferences, <http://ohiochannel.org/live/governor-mike-dewine> contains past recordings in addition to live stream viewing when occurring. We will communicate updates pertaining to this topic as they become available.



As always, if you have any questions/comments/concerns, please feel free to contact myself, Scot Harmon (Administrator) or Patricia Clark (CEO).

Sincerely,

Scot Harmon,  
Administrator

Patricia A. Clark, DM  
CEO, Administrator



6/30/20 Update

Residents/Family/Friends/Staff,

The much-awaited announcement came on Monday (6/30/20) from Governor DeWine indicating that **OUTDOOR VISITATION COULD BE PERMITTED** for the Skilled Nursing Facility setting beginning on July 20, 2020.

While this is wonderful news, we need to acknowledge that the facility continues to be responsible for the health and well-being of those who reside here and as a result Governor DeWine indicated that a Skilled Nursing Facility ought to reference the CMS guidelines on visitation before launching a program targeting this topic. As part of assessing the feasibility of outdoor visitation, the Emergency Preparedness Committee will need to consider the following:

- status of Covid-19 in Hamilton County and the surrounding area
- status of Covid-19 within the facility
- staffing levels
- access to testing for Residents and Staff
- inventory of Personal Protective Equipment
- local hospital capacity

The press conference announcement is indeed important however we are still waiting on formal Ohio Department of Health guidelines for outdoor visitation and lifting of the current visitation order which still is in place. We expect that the guidance will be a general framework, emphasizing facility self-determination to tailor the outdoor visitation program to meet the unique needs of the facility.

Hamilton County is currently a hot spot for Covid-19 in Ohio. We encourage everyone to continue to implement best practices which include wearing a mask while out in public, social distancing from others and hand washing to help reduce the impact Covid-19 is currently having on our community.

While most of this update may come across as anti-climactic, our goal with communications has always been to present a reality-based assessment of how the pandemic is impacting the facility. We feel this has resulted in The Beechwood Home continuing to be Covid-19 free, which is not something many facilities are able to say. This is something we should all be proud of ourselves for and celebrated.

The Emergency Preparedness Committee has proactively been formulating an outdoor visitation program since mid-June and we are excited to launch this program when the time is right, which may indeed be on July 20<sup>th</sup>!

More details will be communicated as they become available.

As always if you have any questions/comments/concerns, please feel free to contact myself, Scot Harmon (Administrator) or Patricia Clark (CEO).

Sincerely,

Scot Harmon,  
Administrator

Patricia A. Clark, DM  
CEO, Administrator