

April 17, 2020

Dear Residents,

We know the dramatic impact that Coronavirus disease (COVID-19) is having on our families, our communities, and our very way of life. What we are facing is daunting and requires all of us to sacrifice in many ways. But these sacrifices are worth it to stop the virus from spreading and to keep our community healthy.

We have no known cases of COVID-19 at The Mather. We remain optimistic that residents' sacrifices of remaining in your apartment homes and on community property, practicing good hand washing for 20 seconds or more, and coughing or sneezing into a tissue and throwing it away, are key things that you can do to minimize the virus from spreading. We remain concerned about the possibility of the virus spreading from people who may be asymptomatic yet positive for COVID-19, hence the procedures we've put in place.

None of us want to have restrictions in place any longer than necessary. An interdisciplinary task force of Mather senior leadership meets daily to implement proactive steps to prevent the spread of COVID19 within our community. This group closely monitors the Centers for Disease Control's (CDC) and Illinois Department of Public Health's guidelines for Life Plan Communities like The Mather. The decisions made to keep residents and employees safe are consistent with actions taken at proactive Life Plan Communities across the country. Chicago, in particular, has been hit hard by the virus, hence the need for conservative measures.

This week we distributed cloth face coverings to all residents based on new CDC guidelines that indicate face coverings should be worn whenever people are in a community setting. Please wear a mask when an employee enters your apartment home to provide a service or when you leave your apartment home (such as for an essential medical appointment or to walk in our gardens).

In the coming week(s), we will look to local, state, and federal guidance to inform the development of a transition plan that will be implemented in a gradual and safe manner. While we do not know the timing of changes at the state or local level, we expect sheltering-at-home requirements to be relaxed in phases and that social/physical distancing will continue to be important.

If you are experiencing any of the following symptoms, please contact your physician for guidance, stay in your home, and notify the Concierge: a loss of taste or smell, cough, fever, sore throat, shortness of breath, and gastrointestinal issues such as diarrhea, nausea, or vomiting. Please note that pink eye, eye pain, or vertigo *may* also be COVID-19 symptoms.



Thank you for your strength and resilience during this time.

Please direct questions to (847) 492.4646 or email bewell@thematherevanston.com.

Take care and stay well.

Sincerely,

Deann Daniel
Executive Director

PS: Please note that this letter is being shared with all residents' current emergency contacts.